

CREDIT RATINGS

Want a loan? First lose your job

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CHELTENHAM

Up and over with the Irish punters

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MISS STUNNING

Can this be the face of true beauty?

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30P

THE TIMES

No. 64,904 THURSDAY MARCH 17 1994

'Victory for ordinary loving mothers' says woman who won

Outcry over childminder's right to smack

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

OUTRAGED children's organisations demanded a change in the law yesterday after the High Court ruled that a childminder had the right to smack boys and girls in her care.

The test case ruling means that local councils that impose a "no smacking" policy in registering child minders — and more than 90 per cent do — could be open to challenge in the courts.

Mr Justice Wilson endorsed a decision by magistrates to overrule the London borough of Sutton's "inflexible" policy of not allowing people who used corporal punishment to become child minders.

Each individual application had to be judged on own merits, he said, and if the Government wished to outlaw smacking among childminders, it would have to introduce legislation. At the moment the issue is merely the subject of guidance that says children should not be smacked, slapped or shaken — although corporal punishment is illegal in state schools and children's homes.

Anne Davis, who went to court because Sutton would not re-register her as a childminder when she refused to sign an undertaking not to use corporal punishment, said after the hearing: "This is a victory for hundreds and thousands of ordinary loving mothers whose experience, discretion and commonsense is recognised as being of more practical use than the unrealistic and unrepresentative theories of the experts of the anti-smacking brigade."

Mrs Davis, 34, was supported througout her campaign by Anne Forman, the mother of four-year-old Luke, whom she had been minding since 1989. But there was condemnation from the National Childminding Association, the National Children's Bureau and the pressure group, End Physical Punishment of Children (Epoch). The association criticised the ruling as negative and short-sighted, adding: "Many thousands of parents who choose a registered childminder for their childcare need will also be disappointed. Our members have overwhelmingly supported the guidance in the Children Act, 1989, which says that physical punishment has no place in the childcare environment."

Childminders were professionals who wanted to work the same high standards as others in the childcare field. Both they and local councils now needed clearer government guidance.

The National Children's Bureau also expressed deep regret. Peter Elfer, senior development officer, said: "We would like to see an end to all forms of physical punishment." He pointed out that the ruling did not concern the parent's right to use reasonable corporal punishment. It related to the legal right and responsibility of local authorities to set and apply reasonable standards. "Sutton was not unreasonable in requiring that childminders should give an undertaking not to smack children."

Peter Newell, of Epoch, said: "Only in the UK would a woman go to court to fight for the right to hit a four-year-old child. In a few years we will look back on this a a very sick judgment." Along with other child welfare organiations, Epoch would now press the Government to implement its no-smacking policy properly by issuing regulations and not just guidance.

"I am appalled by this judgment," he added. "It goes against the government guidelines; against the undertaking made by the Government under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child; against the employing authority's duty to monitor the suitability of people registered as childminders and against the overwhelming view of the childminders' professional association."

Sutton Council has decided not to appeal against the decision, but Charles Waddicor, the social services director, said it would seek advice on its policy, which was likely to be amended.

The policy had been introduced in line with the guidelines issued when the Children Act came into force in 1989 and at the High Court yesterday, the council argued that the magistrates who overruled the policy had no power or qualifications to question the guidelines or to substitute their own views for that of the council.

But Mr Justice Wilson said that Sutton was wrong to adopt a blanket policy of refusing to register childminders who used corporal punishment. The council "went beyond the discharge of their legal duty" in following government guidelines and magistrates were entitled to overturn the authority's decision. Apart from the smacking issue, Mrs Davis had been found to be highly suitable.

Mrs Davis, who has three children of her own, later described the judgment was a a victory for family values. It vindicated the magistrates and herself and "every parent in the land who believes in the reasonable use of physical discipline", she said.

"It's also a victory for all those who believe that the choice of discipline is a parent's responsibility and not that of the state. It's also a victory over the politically correct — or perhaps we should say the politically perverse — who can't tell the difference between loving discipline and child abuse."

John Bowis, Under-Secretary of State for Health, described the ruling as underscoring commonsense, and said the Government would look at the judgment in detail. "We have laid down the guidelines for local authorities to use at their discretion and that discretion should be used sensibly," he said. "What I want to do now is to study the guidance in the light of the judgment to make sure we have a sensible policy."

The European Court of Human Rights considering the case of a boy who was "slippered" ruled last year that moderate corporal punishment in private schools was not unlawful, and a Nottingham University survey found that 83 per cent of mothers believed in the value of a smack.

Corporal punishment in state schools was outlawed by the Education Act, 1986, and the Children Act three years later banned it in all children's homes and foster care.

Official guidance issued under that Act, which applies to all group day care, nurseries, playgroups and childminding, states: "Corporal punishment (smacking, slapping or shaking) is illegal in maintained schools and should not be used by any other parties within the scope of the guidance."

In 1991, Virginia Bottomley confirmed that the Government had implemented a policy that physical punishment had no place in the childcare environment, and that year the Government ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, which protects children from all forms of physical and mental violence.

KEVIN LAMARQUE



Anne Davis outside the High Court. Councils will now have to change their rules

British special forces group 'operating in Bosnia enclave'

BY EDWARD GORMAN IN VITEZ AND MICHAEL EVANS

A DETACHMENT of British special forces, believed to be from the SAS, is operating inside the besieged town of Maglaj in northern Bosnia, in preparation for the next confrontation between the Serbs and Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose, the United Nations commander.

The appearance of about ten British soldiers in a specialist role in one of the most dangerous towns in Bosnia, still surrounded by Serb artillery and mortars, reflects the determination of General Rose to clear up the remaining hotspots as the country progresses towards peace.

The Ministry of Defence adopted its traditional policy of refusing to confirm or deny the presence of British special forces in Bosnia. However, it seems clear that a request for an SAS unit would have come from General Rose, much of whose army career was with the SAS.

All British soldiers in Bosnia are part of the UN Protection Force, mandated by the Security Council to carry out humanitarian and peacekeeping operations. However, it is most unusual for special forces to be deployed in a peacekeeping role. There has been no evidence of SAS units or any other specialist unit in Bosnia, apart from forward air controllers, who were deployed to pinpoint Serb gun positions with laser target markers in the event of a Nato air raid.

The special forces' soldiers were seen by two British-based photo-journalists who returned to Vitez yesterday with accounts of conditions in Maglaj, a mainly Muslim enclave which has been under attack by Serb forces acting in co-operation with the Croats.

Gary Knight, with the Saba Agency in London, said that some of the special forces had reached the enclave by helicopter while others had gone overland. He said that he had come across four of them in Maglaj, four in Tesanj to the north, and two more south of the town. One of the soldiers was reported to have returned fire after being shot at by Serb snipers.

Mr Knight said all the men were trained paramedics and had given most of their medical supplies to Maglaj hospital. He said they were being regarded with some suspicion by local Muslim defenders, who were not allowing them direct access to the front line. Maglaj is the key to what is known as the "Maglaj finger", which the Serbs have wanted to take over to drive a corridor towards Sarajevo.



General Rose: much of his career with SAS

The ten soldiers are believed to have been in the Maglaj area since Sunday. They made clear that they did not want to be photographed and were said to be reporting directly to General Rose at his headquarters in Sarajevo.

Their role would be to reconnoitre the town, to pinpoint the front lines and to give General Rose an up-to-date assessment of conditions.

Maglaj siege, page 10

Lower deficit and fewer jobless cheer Chancellor

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

KENNETH Clarke brushed aside disappointing retail sales figures yesterday to insist that the economy was climbing steadily out of the recession.

Buoyed by a sharp drop in unemployment and the strong likelihood that the public sector deficit will turn out smaller than the £50 billion Budget forecast, the Chancellor said a pretty good recovery was firmly under way.

After the pounding the Government has taken in recent months, Conservative MPs were cheered by a fall of 38,000 in unemployment last month and the prospect that the PSBR will be up to £5 billion less than predicted.

The brightening economic outlook was clouded by a surprise 0.5 per cent fall in high street retail sales, however, suggesting that consumers are reining back spending because they are fearful of the tax rises that could cost the average family £12.50 a week from next month.

Tory MPs interpreted the mixed signals as strengthening the case for an early interest-rate cut to revive flagging consumer confidence and as giving the Chancellor greater scope for reversing some of his tax increases before the next election.

The PSBR for the first 11 months of the year was £34.7 billion; last year it rose by a further £9.5 billion in March, and if that pattern were repeated it would come out this year at about £45 billion.

Although Mr Clarke has been holding out the prospect of tax cuts before the election provided the Government keeps a tight rein on public spending, Treasury ministers insisted that now was no time to ease up on the fiscal squeeze.

The opposition parties seized on the disappointing news from the high street to press for expansionary moves. Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, said that the retail sales figures showed the fragility of the economic recovery and the threat to growth posed by the coming tax rises.

He called for an immediate cut in interest rates to boost demand. "The recovery is not only weak and feeble but for millions of people, as the unemployment figures show, there is no recovery at all."

Falling sales of computer games, a reluctance to buy women's fashions, dismal February weather, and even News International's reductions in the price of *The Sun* and *The Times*, were cited yesterday as explanations for the high street slowdown. From its own weekly survey of shopping trends, the British Retail Consortium admitted that trading conditions were difficult last month, particularly for electrical and elec-

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Buying The Times overseas
Austria Sch 35; Belgium B Frs 70; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 250; Cyprus C£1.00; Denmark Dkr 16.00; Finland Mkk 15.00; France F 12.00; Germany DM 4.00; Gibraltar 80p; Greece Dr 400; Netherlands Fl 4.50; Irish Republic 45p; Italy L 3,800; Luxembourg Lf 60; Madeira Esc 275; Malta 43c; Morocco Dir 25.00; Norway Kr 18.00; Portugal Esc 275; Spain Pes 250; Sweden Skr 17.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.80; Tunisia Din 2.00; USA $3.00.

Hurd ready for vote deal

Douglas Hurd last night appealed for understanding to a packed House of Commons as he tried to prepare Conservative MPs for a deal on European Union voting rights after giving a warning that failure to get agreement could mean the collapse of the Government's cherished aim of a wider Europe ..... Page 2

Peter Riddell, page 9
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Mr Lamont is not amused

A television advertisement for the Visa Delta debit card has been dropped after complaints from Norman Lamont, the former Chancellor, that it poked fun at him. The advertisement, featuring Lord Healey, a former Labour Chancellor, shows him outside a branch of the Thresher off-licence group ..... Page 2

Baby life-saver is rationed

St George's Hospital in south London is rationing a drug that helps premature babies to breathe to babies over 1½ lb weight because it costs £400-£500 a dose, according to guidelines for doctors in the neonatal intensive care unit ..... Page 4

Duke acts to stop heir from gaining control of estate

BY EMMA WILKINS

TRUSTEES for the Duke of Marlborough's estate began legal proceedings yesterday to prevent the Marquess of Blandford from inheriting control of Blenheim Palace and its surrounding estates.

The Duke, 67, who is said to be concerned at the prospect of his troubled elder son and heir gaining control of the family seat and land after his death, is supporting his trustees' action "with reluctance".

A judge decided yesterday to allow the three trustees to proceed with a High Court action, designed to set up a new trust under which Lord Blandford, 38, would be denied control of the palace and its 11,500 acres at Woodstock, Oxfordshire.

Lord Blandford, who has a history of drug addiction, failed in his attempt to halt the action. He is opposing the move and has pledged to beat his addiction. In an affidavit that claims it is unnecessary, he says: "My father will, I hope, live for many years to come and I believe that long before his death, I will, with psychiatric help, overcome my psychological problems."

Mr Justice Morritt, vice-chancellor of the Chancery Division, decided that the action should proceed after hearing two days of legal argument. The trustees want to change the terms of the family trust in order to give them more control over the management of Blenheim Palace and its surrounding acres than Lord Blandford, who is the present Duke's heir.

Lord Blandford's solicitors argued that the court did not have the right to grant the application to change the terms of the family trust. The original Acts of Parliament in 1704 and 1706, which conferred the estates on the first Duke, could be altered only by another Act of Parliament, they claimed.

But Mr Justice Morritt, who emphasised that his ruling did not express approval for the change, decided that the High Court does have the power to grant the action that the trustees are seeking.

Lord Blandford, at present living in Chelsea, West London, said last night: "I have nothing to say. It's got nothing to do with me."

But his solicitor, Michael Stanford-Tuck, said the judge's decision had established that the court holds the power to grant the request of the trustees.

Blandford 'unfit', page 3



Is it St. Patrick's Day, or am I seeing things?

PURE GENIUS.

MPs' politically incorrect language makes our blood boil

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

In a careless moment, Roy Hattersley once referred to the Asian community in Sparkbrook as "my Asians". And it is true of most MPs that they slip easily into the possessive when describing people and events in their own constituencies. "My district council", "my council tenants" and "my farmers" are all phrases I caught myself using as a rural MP.

But do readers share an irritation at politicians talking of "our people," "our children" and "our values"? Whose people, pray? Whose children? Whose values? It seems presumptuous for someone elected (usually by a minority) to exercise a modest function in a legislature, whose constituents are mostly unacquainted with him and he with them, and whose party has undertaken to advance a limited number of quite specific purposes, to drape around his shoulders the banner of their general hopes or fears: their entire belief-system; or their aspirations for what are surely their children not his. I should not expect my coal merchant to talk to me about "our literary heritage". He is there to deliver coal.

So when MPs talk of our television screens, our cinemas and our newspapers, I reach for my revolver. All too often, "our" occupies a weasely halfway station between "yours" and "mine". It is a concealed bid for control.

Yesterday at Environment Questions it was "our streets", "our parks" and "our beaches". Apparently our dogs have been misbehaving. We are in danger of placing our feet, siting our picnics or wheeling our prams into, onto or through *their* unmentionables.

The issue followed exchanges about the need "to protect our children" from the exhaust gases emitted from cars driven by our motorists. Our roads, apparently, are over-used. Our pets and their unsolicited gifts came next. Discussion of this unsavoury subject was entered upon with great relish by MPs.

Chris Mullin (Lab, Sunderland S) believed that the task of clearing up the mess from unleashed dogs was too important to be left to our local authorities. Government should "take a lead," he said. It would improve our opinion of Mr Mullin if we thought the pun was intentional.

It was not clear quite what Mr Mullin wanted ministers to do. The idea of John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, and his team, out on "our" streets and beaches with pooper-scoopers was engaging.

A junior minister, Robert Atkins, retorted that he was anxious "not to fall between two stools". It would improve our opinion of Mr Atkins if we thought the pun was not contrived.

Charles Hendry (C, High Peak) claimed you got more poops scooped for your pound by Conservative councils than by Labour ones. Mr Atkins said Tory authorities were populated by a better class of dog. Angela Eagle (Lab, Wallasey) said this Government could not clean up its own mess, let alone our dogs' ... and the House moved on.

Yesterday marks a step in the Environment Secretary's spiritual progress. Mr Gummer now speaks at the dispatch box for the Pope. Labour's Chris Smith told Gummer that, now he had left the Church of England, he might choose to ignore anxieties expressed by Anglican bishops about the export of toxic waste but how did he respond to concern expressed by the Pope? "No ecclesiastical personage of my acquaintance," protested Gummer, held such views. He put Smith right as to ecclesiastical wisdom in such matters. Our Pope shares our views.

Hurd prepares Tory MPs for retreat on EU voting rights

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

DOUGLAS Hurd tried last night to prepare Conservative MPs for a deal on European Union voting rights after warning them that failure to reach agreement could mean the collapse of the Government's cherished aim of a wider Europe.

The Foreign Secretary appealed for understanding from a packed Commons meeting as Britain and Spain held out against Brussels plans to weaken voting rights of the Union's larger states.

He reassured them that he was not intent on a "sell-out" but left them with the clear impression that he is looking for compromises that could prevent a full-scale crisis in the EU that would result in plans being scuppered to admit Austria, Finland, Sweden and Norway next January.

But he also underlined his determination to hold out against the current proposals under which the EU's so-called "blocking minority" would rise from 23 to 27, reducing the power of larger countries such as Britain to stand in the way of unwelcome directives.

Mr Hurd is understood to be backing a plan proposed by Spain under which the rights of the larger countries — France, Germany, Italy and Britain — would be safeguarded. Before addressing the meeting he had a lengthy discussion with the Prime Minister over the way forward. He has been left in no doubt that anything seen as a retreat could mean a Maastricht-style revolt against the Government later this year.

Legislation authorising the entry of the four new member states has to come before the Commons in the autumn. It will include the new decision-making formula. Mr Hurd returns to Brussels next Tuesday for another meeting of EU foreign ministers. This week's gathering broke up without agreement, with Britain again under attack from her partners for standing in the way of European development.

The Foreign Secretary told the meeting that he had not shifted from his original negotiating stance that the blocking minority should stand at 23. But he knows that he will have to move if there is to be an agreement allowing the European Parliament to ratify enlargement at its May meeting.

The Cabinet will this morning determine the extent to which he will be allowed to move next week, but it is clear that there are sharp differences among ministers over whether he could go along with anything that could be presented as a climbdown.

Mr Hurd told MPs his dual objective was to achieve enlargement and prevent a dilution in Britain's voting influence. But his warning that an indefinite delay could risk a collapse of the enlargement objective left MPs with the firm idea that he regarded a deal as inevitable.

Although those remarks worried the Eurosceptics, they were making a determined effort last night not to rock the boat. They argued they had taken a back seat to let the more moderate sceptics to push their cause at the Commons meeting.

Mr Hurd was pressed at the 70-minute meeting to ensure that British interests were protected in all circumstances. The Foreign Secretary told the MPs not to probe too deeply. He appeared to have pulled off a delicate balancing act.

Peter Riddell, page 9

☐ Scandinavian newspapers have attacked Britain's stance on European Union vetoes. Although the governments of Sweden, Finland and Norway have avoided comment, Sweden's largest quality newspaper, *Dagens Nyheter*, called the British view absurd, saying that the country which had most favoured EU enlargement was threatening to halt the process. Other papers said that while there were 20 million unemployed in Europe, all the union was interested in discussing was power and prestige.

Officials accused over cheap homes deal

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ALLEGATIONS of corruption and mismanagement were levelled yesterday by MPs investigating a company formerly headed by Michael Ancram, the Northern Ireland minister. MPs expressed alarm over the way that Waverley Housing, a property management company, won a housing contract which lost taxpayers more than £3 million.

Senior officials were accused by MPs of offering a preferential deal to Waverley Housing, which bought about 1,200 houses for prices averaging only £4,200 each, although they had cost up to £50,000 to build.

The houses, built in several parts of the Borders, were sold to Waverley despite higher bids from other companies. Rivals complained to the Scottish Office that they had not been given the same opportunities to prepare bids.

Robert Sheldon, chairman of the Commons public accounts committee, said the handling of the deal by Scottish Homes "amounted to an appalling record of mismanagement at best". He said: "If this was any other organisation I was dealing with I would say there was corruption."

MPs were told that Mr Ancram, who was Scottish housing minister until 1987, took over as chairman of Waverley in October, 1988, and resigned in June 1990, before the deal was finalised.



Lord Healey in the Visa Delta debit card commercial that has been dropped

Ad raises Lamont's eyebrows

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

A TELEVISION commercial that pokes fun at Norman Lamont and features Lord Healey, the former Labour Chancellor of the Exchequer, has been dropped after a complaint from the Tory former minister.

Although the advertisement for the Visa Delta debit card does not mention Mr Lamont, he complained to the Independent Television Commission that a shot of Lord Healey walking past a Thresher offlicence was a reference to Mr Lamont's last days as Chancellor in 1992. Press reports had claimed that Mr Lamont used his Access card to buy a bottle of cheap champagne and cigarettes for £17.47. The story was later proved to be untrue. The catchline of the commercial, made by Saatchi & Saatchi, is: "It's so easy, even a Chancellor of the Exchequer can use it."

Mr Lamont said last night: "The entire Thresher incident was a pack of lies fabricated by newspapers. I see no reason why a lie should be perpetuated in an advertisement." Lord Healey, considered by many in the television industry to be an advertiser's dream because of his spectacularly bushy eyebrows, declined to comment.

Peter Halliday, a spokesman for Visa International, said that it had not sought Mr Lamont's permission for the commercial and it had been surprised by his complaint. Visa had no intention of re-running the commercial.

The commission said: "We had to accept Mr Lamont's inference that the ad referred to him. We found that it breached our rules against exploiting the individual."

Portrait of Curtis, an artist who likes it hot

BY ALISON ROBERTS
ARTS REPORTER

FILM star Tony Curtis's first European art exhibition opens in London today featuring a set of paintings and sketches as energetic and bold as the man himself.

Curtis, the lover of women, makes an appearance in two sketches of nudes, while Curtis the vivid film star shows himself in the brilliant colour of his vases of flowers — scorching reds, sea greens and blazing yellows.

The pop artist Peter Blake, writing in the exhibition catalogue, describes Curtis as "a serious and very good artist". He also acknowledges his obvious influences, with Curtis paying homage to Matisse, Warhol and Joseph Cornell.

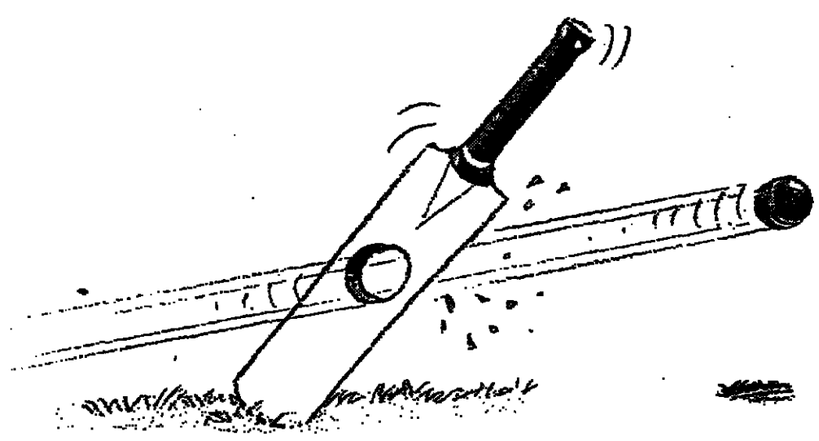
"I've had a magnificent film career, but mostly now I paint," Curtis said in a recent interview. His work has been on show several times in America.

British art critic Brian Sewell has condemned Curtis as an amateur, albeit in good company with the likes of Prince Charles and Winston Churchill. "People like this are very silly," he has said. "They start by taking up art as a therapy and end up thinking they are very good. But in fact they're bloody awful."

Despite such hard words, the Catto Gallery in Hampstead expects to sell most of the work on show. Curtis's acrylics cost from £1,700 to £10,000.

Leading article, page 17

FOR A FASTER WEST INDIAN DELIVERY...



CEE PAGE 341.

England's second Test Match against the West Indies starts today in Georgetown, Guyana.
And Ceefax – from BBC News – will be giving you instant access to the very latest in scores and news, as it will for all England's remaining Tests in the Caribbean.
A single page number takes you straight to the full scorecard, up-dated run by run. So if you want an early sight of what's happening, Ceefax will give you an edge.

BBC CEEFAX
First with the facts

IN BRIEF

Queen Mother in festival bomb scare

A coded bomb warning prevented Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother from presenting trophies in the winners' enclosure after a race in her honour at the Cheltenham National Hunt festival. The ceremony was postponed while police investigated the threat, which was telephoned to News International 10 minutes before the race.

The presentation to Graham Roach and David Nicholson, owner and trainer of Viking Flagship, the winner of the Queen Mother Champion Chase, finally took place beside the Royal Box after the following race.

Hunger strike spreads

A hunger strike among asylum seekers spread throughout the prison system yesterday with more than 200 people refusing food in nine jails and two immigration detention centres. The Home Office said the rise in the number of immigrants refusing food was "copycat" action by people trying to get temporary admission into the UK.

Jury sent to hotel

A jury trying a man accused of attempting to murder WPC Leslie Harrison, 31, who was stabbed through the heart with a screwdriver, was sent to a hotel last night. The Preston Crown Court jury found Stephen Doyle, 29, unemployed, of Everton, Liverpool, guilty of attempting to wound four police officers and a taxi driver.

Son of war hero dies

A son of Lord Lovat, a decorated war hero who led commando raids in France, has been killed on safari in Tanzania, the family confirmed yesterday. Early reports said Andrew Fraser, 41, had been killed by a buffalo, but this could not be confirmed. The Foreign Office was making enquiries from the High Commission in Dar es Salaam.

Gameshow star inquest



Monica Rose, right, who starred with Hughie Green on *Double Your Money* and *The Sky's The Limit*, killed herself with a combination of anti-depressants and painkillers, a Leicester coroner ruled. Rose, 45, died at her home in Whetstone, Leicestershire, last month. Michael Charman said: "I can come to no other conclusion than that she took her own life while suffering from depression."

Extra time for Hull City

Hull City, the second division football club, gained a month's breathing space in the High Court yesterday to pay off its debts and avoid collapse. At a brief hearing the Inland Revenue, which is owed £220,000 by the club, agreed to a month's adjournment until April 13 of its winding up petition.

Toshack resigns, page 44

IRA mortars 'were meant to explode'

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE IRA mortar bombs fired at Heathrow airport last week failed to explode because of a mechanical fault, it was claimed yesterday.

A security source discounted Republican claims that the fault was deliberately built in, saying that the IRA had every intention of exploding the missiles. The source told the *Belfast Telegraph* yesterday that propellers in the nose of the missiles, which are meant to trigger a detonator, failed to work. The propellers should rotate after the mortars are fired and push down on the detonator.

The security source was reported as saying: "These mortars were armed and it is our belief that the IRA intended them to explode. The fault was not deliberately built into the system, as had been suggested earlier. Also, these devices contained Semtex, which is expensive and hard to come by. I cannot see the IRA wasting it by putting it in mortars which were planned not to go off."

The claim came as Sir Hugh Annesley, the RUC Chief Constable, denied suggestions that he was irritated with police in the Irish republic for not doing enough to counter terrorism. He said: "The success rate of the Garda in finding arms and explosives, and making arrests, has been first rate and is plain for all to see ... I confirm that the level of cross-border co-operation is at an all-time high." His comments followed claims that the Garda had failed to monitor IRA paramilitaries after the RUC warned they were planning a mainland "spectacular".

Figures cheer Tories

Continued from page 1

tronic goods. "Sales of computer game hardware were again well down and sales of white goods were only at last year's level," Hugh Clarke, the trading policy director, said.

But the consortium said February had been a good month for the food and drink industry, with fresh produce and bakery products selling particularly well.

☐ Low inflation: The Treasury said that yesterday's figures, taken together, were "consistent with recovery continuing at a steady pace with low inflation" (Janet Bush writes). There was widespread worry in the City, however, that such a virtuous combination may now be eluding the Government, with the recovery flagging in the face of tax increases.

The combination of falling sales and rising earnings growth underlined the Chancellor's growing dilemma over interest rate policy.

Business News, page 23
Pennington, page 25
Economic View, page 27

1,333 units of blood short. Like our need for blood, this ad will still be here tomorrow.
TO GIVE BLOOD CALL 0345 711 711
Local call rates apply.

Duke supports legal action against his wayward son

Blandford 'unfit' to take control of family seat

BY EMMA WILKINS

THE Marquess of Blandford's irresponsibility and "unbusinesslike" habits make him unfit to manage Blenheim Palace and its surrounding estates, his family's trustees said yesterday.

His father, the Duke of Marlborough, is very concerned about the prospect of the marquess inheriting control of the family seat and is supporting the trustees' legal action to prevent it.

Lord Blandford is opposing the move and has pledged to beat his addiction to drugs. The 38-year-old marquess, who claims to be suffering from depression, has admitted spending £20,000 in four months on cocaine in the 1980s. Recently he spent three days in jail after failing to pay maintenance to his estranged wife and their child.

In an affidavit that claims the action against him is unnecesary, he said: "A long-standing but until recently undiagnosed depression was at the root of my behaviour with drugs and this is now being successfully treated."



Blandford: pledged to beat drug addiction



The duke: concerned over son's inheritance

After two days of legal argument, however, Mr Justice Morritt, vice-chancellor of the Chancery Division, ruled yesterday that the action may proceed. In a statement submitted to the court by the trustees, Rupert Hambro, Richard Beckett, and Sir Arthur Collins, the court is asked to implement a new arrangement that would "provide for the proper management of the Parliamentary estates in the future".

The estates were conferred by Acts of Parliament in 1704 and 1706 on John Churchill, the first duke, by Queen Anne and a grateful nation after his victory at Blenheim.

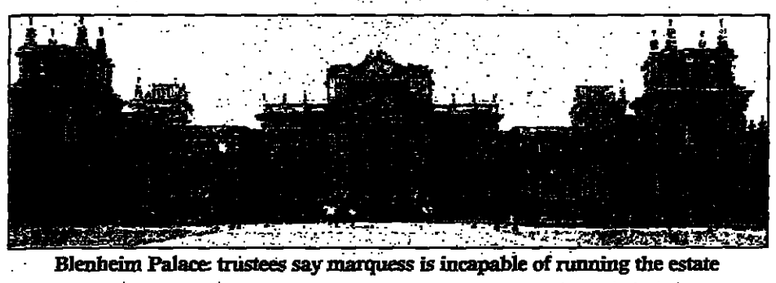
The present duke is not seeking to prevent his son inheriting the title. Any attempt to change the terms of the original settlement would require an Act of Parliament.

Blenheim Palace, with its art treasures and surrounding 11,500 acres at Woodstock, Oxfordshire, is a profitable business, yeilding a turnover of more than £2 million a year.

The statement, from Mr Hambro, of the merchant banking family, said: "In view of Lord Blandford's unbusinesslike habits and the lack of responsibility shown by him, we have been driven very reluctantly to the conclusion that he is not, at least at present, capable of taking on the burden of managing the parliamentary estates."

Lord Blandford, who is facing charges concerning alleged fraud, said in his affidavit: "I confidently expect to be fully capable of playing my part (with the full assistance of my expert advisers and managers) in managing the Blenheim parliamentary estate. The management of the estate is a responsibility to which I aspire and which I would treat with the utmost seriousness."

Mr Hambro's arrangement would create a settlement under which Lord Blandford would not have the power to personally manage the estate when he becomes the twelfth duke.



Blenheim Palace: trustees say marquess is incapable of running the estate



TONY WHITE

Paul Dewey shoulders a boar he shot in west Kent

Sharpshooters take aim as wild boars go on the rampage

BY BILL FROST

AMATEUR marksmen were converging on a corner of Kent yesterday to join the hunt for a quarry not seen in the wild in Britain for over 300 years.

At least 16 farmed wild boar are at large in woodland near the town of Tenterden. They have frightened walkers, uprooted crops and caused a traffic accident. While foraging for food the animals also turned a local vineyard into "a First World War battlefield".

Last Sunday a 200 lb male was shot dead in a copse at Wittersham, close to the county border with East Sussex. Three others have been killed by hunters during the past ten days.

Some local people said yesterday that they had heard that marksmen were heading for the Tenterden area, drawn by the lure of a dangerous adversary. One gamekeeper said: "The wild boar's fiercesome tusks and ferocious nature when cornered make him a beast and a half to be reckoned with."

Wild boar are bred at Morghew Farm, just outside Tenterden. However, any suggestion that some of the animals, which stand about 3 ft and weigh up to 300 lb, might have escaped from their compound was firmly rejected yesterday.

Richard Bezant, the farm manager, said: "We have an electrified perimeter fence so they cannot get out. But it is possible that these boars have been drawn to the area because we have lots of sows and it is the mating season."

At the Tenterden Vineyard, Sid Whetton surveyed a scene of devastation. "Fifty per cent of my vines have been affected by the wild boar," he said. "It looks like a First World War battlefield rather than a vineyard after those brutes came to pay a visit."

Like many who live near Tenterden, Mr Whetton fears that "bounty hunters" will make matters worse. "These people will bring shotguns which won't even bruise the hide of a wild boar. If they do wound one then the danger is doubled."

Edward Barham, who farms just outside Tenterden, first became aware of the rogue wild boars two months ago.

"It's going to be almost impossible to eradicate them. They have to be killed with high-calibre bullets. Shotgun pellets won't work on their thick hides," he said.

The British Wild Boar Association, which was set up in 1989, has 36 registered members using pure-bred imported stock. Wild boar farmers need a licence under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act, which lays down stringent rules on fencing that should make escape impossible.

CSA bill linked to death of father

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A CIVILIAN police worker in line for a bravery award has been found dead in his fume-filled car after being contacted by the Child Support Agency over maintenance for his two young sons.

Photographs of Derek Atkin's two boys Benjamin, 13, and Mark, nine, were on the car seat beside him and correspondence relating to maintenance payments was found laid out for police to find on the kitchen table of his home in Grimsby, South Humberside, yesterday.

Mr Atkin, 37, a scene-of-crimes officer with the Humberside force, was the latest victim of a series of tragedies involving fathers who had been contacted by the CSA over the amount of maintenance money they pay their former wives.

Yesterday his mother, June Atkin, said he had arranged his home "immaculately, as only a scene-of-crimes officer would" so that police would have minimum work to do.

She said: "He had been having terrible trouble with the CSA. He told me they were trying to take him for every penny he had. They have got to carry part of the blame."

Convicted thieves may be banished from New Forest

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

CONVICTED car thieves may be banned from entering the New Forest if the Forestry Commission adopts a plan to use High Court injunctions against persistent criminals.

Injunctions are already used by department stores and shopping malls against convicted shoplifters and have been used to halt troublemakers on council estates in London. But the tactic has never been used in an open area such as the forest, which covers 145 square miles.

The orders would be used against a few known, hardcore thieves who would be arrested and taken out of the forest. As yet the commission and legal advisers have not decided whether to seek orders for the whole forest area or just for the 141 car parks and 10 camp sites.

Roger Brake, Forestry Commission Recreation and Range Manager, said: "It is a unique idea which we feel is the most effective way of protecting people who come into the forest from the attentions of known car-park thieves.

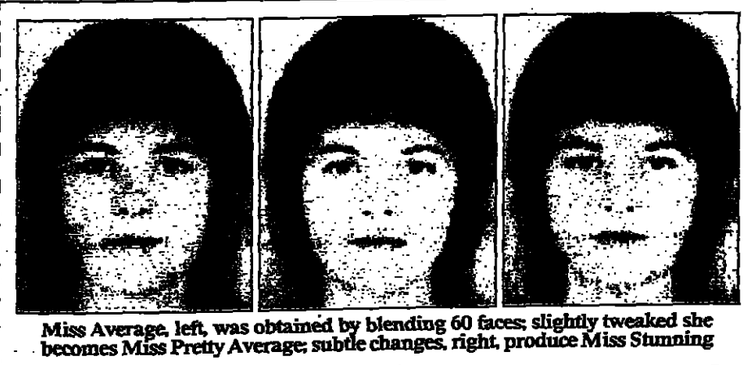
"The majority of break-ins are probably undertaken by the same groups of people. Most of them have a number of convictions but as the law stands we cannot stop them coming onto our land and the police cannot do anything about it unless they catch them in the act."

Mr Brake said that undercover operations had brought about arrests in the past but it had cost a tremendous amount of money and used up a great deal of police manpower and resources.

Det Con Stephen Brewer, of Hampshire Police New Forest Unit, said: "We are dealing with teams of professionals — some who live locally and some who come from outside the county — who make a good living from breaking into vehicles at beauty spot car parks."

He said car crime accounted for up to half of the total crimes dealt with in the whole police division. The offenders went from one car park to another and stole cash from handbags or luggage.

DC Brewer said: "We see them wondering about and cannot do anything unless we catch them in the act. These people are a nuisance and we welcome this measure. It is probably the best solution to keep out people whose only reason to come into the New Forest is to steal."



Miss Average, left, was obtained by blending 60 faces; slightly tweaked she becomes Miss Pretty Average; subtle changes, right, produce Miss Stunning

Scientists find the secret of beauty is pretty average

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

BRITISH and Japanese psychologists claim to have revealed the secret of beauty. The most attractive women are not those with exceptional features, the researchers found, but the ones who have average faces with an added dash of interest.

The finding has surprised the psychologists. Using a computer to meld together the faces of 60 women of varying attractiveness, they created an "average" face which observers found pretty, the team reports in *Nature*.

Dr David Perrett, of the University of St Andrews, collaborated with a colleague from Otemon Gakuin University in Osaka and found that their average face was judged even prettier when certain features were exaggerated.

They took the attractive parts, such as large eyes or a strong chin, and made them slightly larger. The differences are barely perceptible but the observers almost all chose the "exaggerated" faces.

"The more attractive shape had higher cheek bones, a thinner jaw and larger eyes relative to the size of the face than the average shape. The attractive shape also had shorter distances between the mouth and chin and between nose and mouth," the psychologists said.

Why people should find these enhanced features more attractive remains a mystery. "Attractive facial features may signal sexual maturity and fertility, emotional expressiveness or a 'cuteness' generalised from parental protectiveness towards young," the authors suggest.

However, the work did not address the question of varying expression and, as Dr Perett says: "It's one thing to have a face like a Greek goddess but there's a lot more to attractiveness than that."

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Hospital rations drug that helps save babies

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A HOSPITAL is rationing a drug that helps premature babies to breathe because it is too expensive.

Guidelines issued to doctors in the neonatal intensive care unit at St George's Hospital, south London, say the drug, lung surfactant, must not be given to babies weighing less than 1½lbs (700 grams). The consultant in charge of the unit, Dr Patricia Hamilton, said that using the drug for small babies was not cost-effective.

The drug costs £400 to £500 a dose and an average of three doses are required for each premature baby.

Babies weighing under 1½lbs at birth have only a 30-40 per cent chance of surviving, even when treated with surfactant. The implication of the guidelines is that it is not worth using the drug on such babies.

The existence of the guidelines, which have been in effect for two years, was initially denied by Dr Hamilton because of their sensitivity. She later admitted that she had produced them but said that they were intended to prompt junior doctors to discuss the case with the consultant.

"We do think twice about giving surfactant to these very small babies," she said. "It is about cost-effectiveness. The value of surfactant is not proven in these babies. What usually happens is that the registrar [junior doctor] would ring the consultant."

The existence of the guidelines is revealed in a report published today on rationing in the national health service, commissioned by the Health Department.

The report, by Professor Chris Ham, director of the Health Services Management Centre in Birmingham, and colleagues, says that health authorities are seeking to cut spending by issuing guidelines to doctors telling them which patients to treat, instead of excluding services from the NHS.

Professor Malcolm Levene, head of neonatology at Leeds General Infirmary, said there had been wide discussion of the use of surfactant in tiny babies.

"There is a lot of research which shows that surfactant saves babies' lives," he said. "However, most of the studies are on babies weighing more than 800 grams. It is still doubtful whether it has an effect in babies of 750 or 700 grams."

Prof Levene said that St George's had adopted "an extremely honest approach" in issuing guidelines. "It is very questionable whether it is appropriate to use this drug where there is no proven benefit and we have a limited health budget. Many doctors feel it is not a good use of resources."

He said that explicit guidelines were necessary for inexperienced junior doctors but could be overridden by consultants.

However, his own unit did not have them. "We don't like blanket rules."

Restrictions on NHS treatment for many other conditions, including ear infections, gynaecological problems and infertility, are being imposed by health authorities as they confront the need to ration limited budgets.

Grimsby and Scunthorpe health authority is issuing guidelines for doctors, to take effect next month, on which child patients should be offered treatment for ear infections involving the insertion of grommets (plastic valves) in the ear drum and on which female patients should be offered D&Cs (scraping of the lining of the womb) for gynaecological problems.

"Both these procedures are overused and we intend to cut the number of grommet insertions by half and the number of D&Cs by 20 per cent next year," said a spokesman.

Call for research on contraceptive implant

BY OUR HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

A NEW version of Norplant, the "under-the-skin" female contraceptive, could increase dangerous side effects, according to a report.

The device, which is inserted under the skin of the upper arm, was launched in Britain last October. A report in the *Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin*, published by the Consumers' Association, says it has been modified and the new version may release the contraceptive hormone progestogen into the bloodstream at a faster rate. The report says that, with one exception, all published research on Norplant is based on the original version.

"We are concerned that there has been a change in the implant and about the limited information published on this," Dr Joe Collier, editor of the bulletin, said. "More published research is needed."

Side effects are common, especially irregular bleeding. In one study nearly all women experienced one side effect and in another, almost half the women considered having the implant removed because of the side effects.

Thousands march to save Hindu shrine

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THOUSANDS of religious protesters marched through London yesterday to demonstrate against a move to close a temple donated to the Hare Krishna movement by the rock star George Harrison.

Protesters from across the country are fighting Hertsmere Borough Council's decision to stop Bhaktivedanta Manor at Letchmore Heath, Hertfordshire, being a place of worship.

The former manor house was bought by Harrison in 1973 at the height of his involvement in Indian culture. He donated it to Hare Krishna followers, a shrine was erected and it was used as a theological college.

Villagers, however, complained that worshippers caused disruption by blocking roads at weekends. After a public enquiry, the ban was to come into force yesterday. But the council yesterday promised no legal action until a planning application for change of use was heard.

Keith Vaz, Labour MP for Leicester East, joined the march yesterday and was refusing to eat for 24 hours in a gesture of support.

"This is the largest gathering of the Hindu community in the history of this country," he said. "This is an issue about freedom of worship."



ADRIAN BROOKS

Campaigners for Bhaktivedanta Manor show solidarity in London yesterday

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Vandal, 14 killed by train cable

A boy aged 14 died from burns when he touched a 25,000-volt overhead cable at a train depot where he and a friend had caused £10,000 damage, an inquest was told yesterday.

Ignoring danger signs and razor wire, they climbed into the Hornsey depot, north London, and marched through an empty train, smashing windows and doors with axes installed for emergencies.

The boys climbed onto the train roof. Athanasios Athanasiou, of East Barnet, touched the cable and fell to the ground in flames, suffering 75 per cent burns and a head injury. A Westminster coroner's jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

Bank-note case

Dawn Griffiths, 24, of Hemlington, Cleveland, whose day-old baby was snatched from a London hospital four years ago and held for 17 days, was convicted at Teesside Crown Court of possessing five forged £5 notes. She will be sentenced later.

Family reunion

Maria Haelis, 29, of Derby, was reunited with her son, aged 12, and daughter, 7, in Cyprus yesterday, nine months after her estranged Greek Cypriot husband refused to return them after a holiday. She asked police not to charge him.

Boys cleared

Two boys aged 10 and 12 were formally cleared by Margate magistrates of raping a five-year-old girl after the Crown Prosecution Service decided that there was insufficient evidence.

Stale news

Two cheese sandwiches wrapped in an 1897 newspaper have been found under the floorboards of a house built that year in Bangor.

TV censor tells Arthur to mind his language

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN
MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

ITV has been forced to censor the very first episode of *Minder*, which will be given a valedictory showing tonight to mark the end of the series' 15-year run, because it is considered too politically incorrect for contemporary tastes.

Racist remarks, blasphemy and a close-up shot of a stripper have been cut out of the programme, *Gunfight at the OK Ldunderette*, which kicked off the popular series about Arthur Daley, a south London spiv played by George Cole, and his minder, Terry McCann, played by Dennis Waterman. The incident illustrates the tightening grip of broadcasting watchdogs and the evolution in standards of taste and decency on British television since the Seventies. Bob Southgate, the managing director of Central broadcasting, who vetted the programme for the ITV network, said that the villains in tonight's episode of *Minder* were all played by black actors and are referred to by the Daley character as "dopey spades".

"The context of the story does not require them to be of any specific nationality and this kind of racial typecasting would be avoided by today's programme-makers," he said.



Cole: 15 years as TV's Arthur Daley

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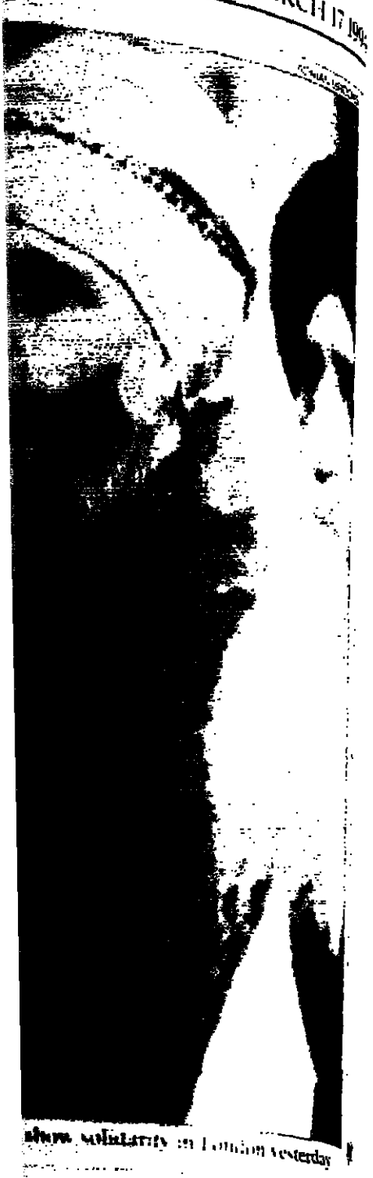
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Appeal to Attorney-General after judge says he was prevented from passing longer sentence

Five years for killing shop boy 'too lenient'

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

THE Attorney-General may appeal against a five-year jail term imposed on a shoplifter for killing a schoolboy assistant who chased him from a supermarket on the grounds that the sentence is unduly lenient.

Gary Streeter, constituency MP for Jonathan Roberts' parents and parliamentary private secretary to the Solicitor-General, is referring the case to the Attorney-General, Sir Nicholas Lyell QC.

The victim's parents said they were very upset that their son's killer, Andrew Bray, 24, had been jailed for so short a time. "Obviously we feel the sentence is by far too lenient," Chris Roberts said outside Plymouth Crown Court.

Neil Williams, the boy's uncle, said: "Jonathan's family are extremely angry. We think that five years for killing a 17-year-old boy with fists and kicks is extremely lenient and we are extremely angry and upset."

Mr Justice Drake told the court he would have liked to pass a longer sentence. He said: "What prevents me is that the Court of Appeal has given guidelines on dealing with offences such as this and as a result the sentence is shorter than I personally think is deserved."

The judge had halted a two-day murder trial because the prosecution had failed to make a case "beyond reasonable doubt". Bray pleaded guilty to manslaughter.

Jonathan, an A-level student with 10 GCSEs, had a part-time job filling shelves at a supermarket in Plymstock, south Devon. He led a group of workers out of the store after Bray was seen wheeling a trolley full of stolen groceries out of the entrance last September. Four witnesses said they saw Bray aim a deliberate kick at Jonathan's head, but nine others only saw a brief scuffle with a couple of punches and a kick to the chest.

Pathologist Dr Gyan Fernando said the boy's injuries were "superficial and survivable" but had triggered off a chain of events which led to his death.

The judge told Bray: "The young man killed was clearly a very fine young man who had the whole of his life in front of him which showed a life full of promise. Whatever sentence I pass on you, you will only be in prison for a while whilst this man can never be brought back."

Legal sources said yesterday that recent appeal court judgments had indicated that people should be sentenced to between two and five years for manslaughter cases where an "unlucky blow" had killed someone.

Anthony Donne QC, for the defence, said of his client: "He has to live for the rest of his life with the knowledge that his unlawful and aggressive behaviour, albeit in panic, and in just a few seconds, resulted in the death at the tragically early age of 17 of a very fine, promising young man who was doing what every parent would want him to do – his duty."



Chris Roberts, left, and Neil Williams, the victim's father and uncle, outside Plymouth Crown Court after hearing the sentence yesterday



Jonathan Roberts: "he was doing his duty"



Bray: he kicked and punched boy to death

Jail for car racers who killed girl, 5

BY A STAFF REPORTER

TWO motorists who killed a five-year-old girl during a high-speed car race were jailed for three years by Leeds Crown Court yesterday.

Richard Fosbrook, 29, and Mark Wheeler, 23, were driving at reckless speeds along a narrow country road in February last year when Wheeler's Ford Escort crashed into the back of a Mini, killing Georgina Reed.

Fosbrook, of Todmorden, West Yorkshire, was found guilty of causing death by reckless driving. He had denied the offence. Wheeler, also of Todmorden, had pleaded guilty to the charge at an earlier hearing.

Both men, who had two previous convictions for speeding, were disqualified from driving for five years. Judge Savill QC said that they must pass stringent tests before they could regain their licences.

Wheeler told the court: "I would like to say sorry to Mr and Mrs Reed for the trouble and pain I have caused them. I have no excuses for what I have done and I accept all responsibility for it. I am very sorry."

The jury was told that the men were driving at more than 75mph as they approached the brow of a hill. Within seconds Wheeler came upon the Mini driven by Deborah Reed. Georgina's mother, which was waiting to turn right.

He braked but crashed into the back of the car, shunting it into a wall. Georgina was fatally injured.

After the hearing Paul Reed, 32, and his 30-year-old wife, also of Todmorden, who are expecting twins in June, said no sentence could have made things better for them.

"We knew from the outset no matter what they got it couldn't help. At the end of their sentences they will go home to their families but Georgina will never come back to us," Mr Reed said.

Mrs Reed said her son Dean, 9, who was sitting next to his sister when the accident happened, had recovered from his injuries but was still mentally affected by the ordeal.

Murder case dropped after witness dies

BY A STAFF REPORTER

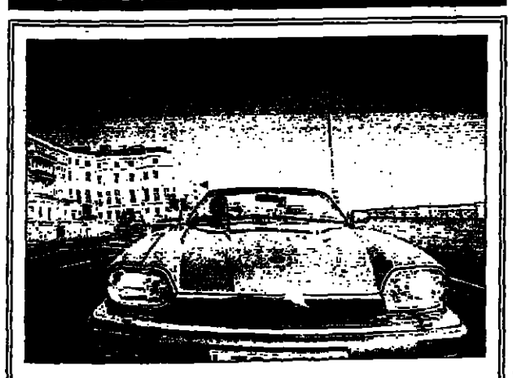
TWO men accused of the murder of a 90-year-old man have been freed after the chief prosecution witness died.

Peter Pasquill, 33, and William Holohan, 36, were to go on trial at Manchester Crown Court charged with murdering William McGrath, who died from asphyxiation after being tied up and gagged during a burglary at his home in Great Lever last May.

Peter Openshaw QC, for the prosecution, told Mr Justice Morland that Gilbert Young, 19, eventually admitted burglary, and implicated Mr Pasquill and Mr Holohan, who denied involvement. Mr Young was remanded for sentence.

Counsel said that "the prosecution depended entirely on what Young said, and over the weekend he apparently deliberately took a drugs overdose. The other evidence is insubstantial and the prosecution have no evidence to offer." Mr Justice Morland directed verdicts of not guilty.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



Lynne Truss goes topless in Brighton

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Film actors, directors and writers call for investment and tax-breaks to create British blockbusters

Stars campaign for UK Tinsel Town

By Alison Roberts, Arts Reporter



Hoping for a healthier film industry: Simon Callow, Bob Hoskins, Helen Mirren and Michael Caine at the launch of Impact yesterday

MORE than 300 leading figures in the film industry met yesterday to back a new campaign to turn Britain into Europe's blockbuster movie capital.

Leaders of the initiative, which is supported by hundreds of British actors, directors, writers and technicians, said that it would not cost the taxpayer a penny but had the potential to make millions of pounds in revenue and to create thousands of jobs. Campaign representatives are already in talks with John Major.

Michael Caine said yesterday: "The idea is to make big-budget pictures again that make money. What I like about this is that for the first time they use the word commercial. For years that has been looked upon as a four-letter word.

"The British never invest in British films. Banks have a strange idea of what the film industry is. To them it is a lot of cissies prancing about in make-up and going to night-clubs. If we don't make films here, we lose money again because we have to import them to fill up the space in cinemas. Pictures like *Alfie* or *Georgie Girl* were not about American subjects — gangsters or blowing things up. I think we should go back to that."

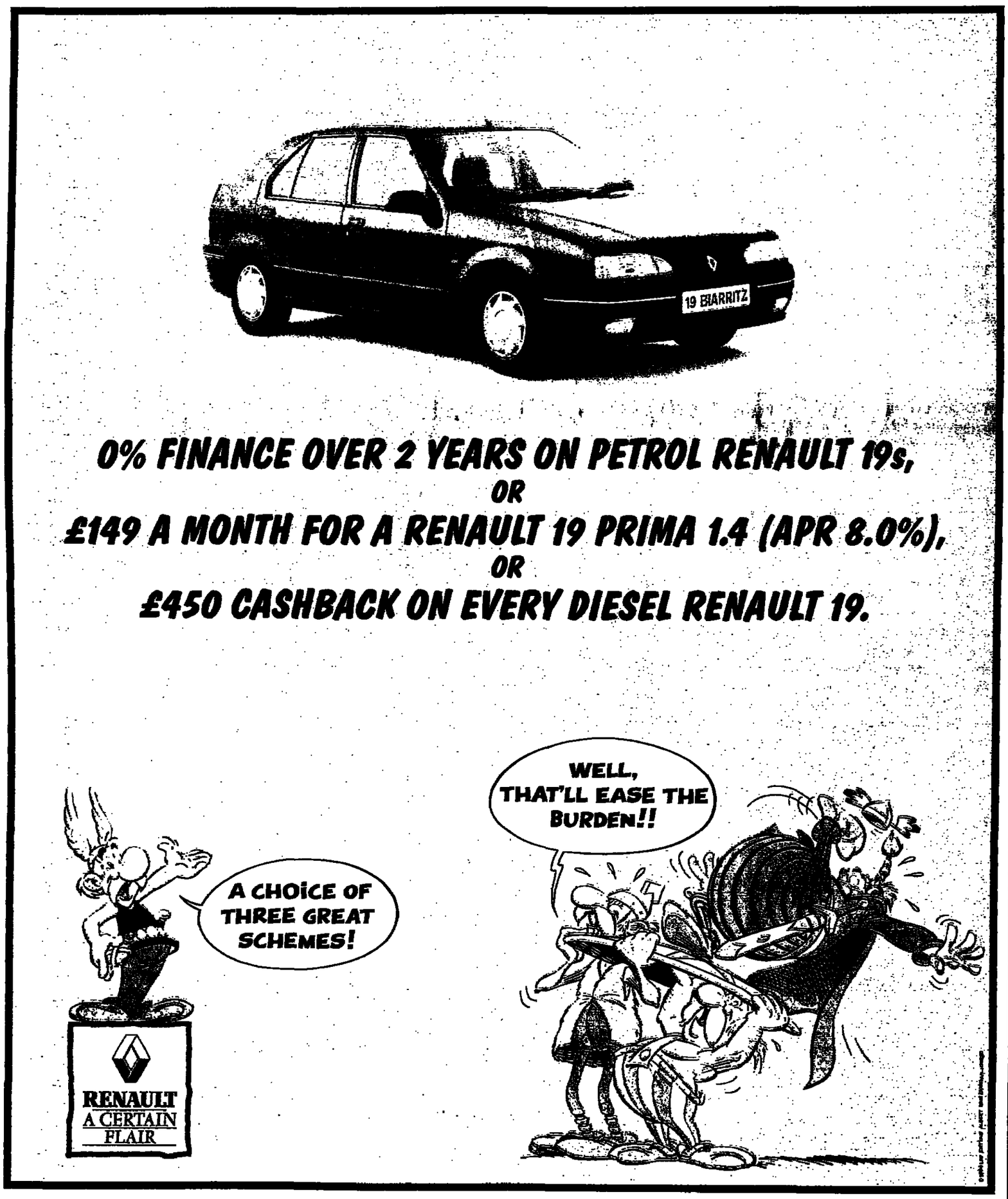
The mass meeting heard actors and directors, including Michael Caine, Simon Callow, Ralph Fiennes, Bob Hoskins, Jeremy Irons, Helen Mirren and David Puttnam, launch Impact, the Initiative for Motion Picture Arts, Commerce and Technology. Speakers said that the British film industry had concentrated on art-house movies for too long, which combined with government disincentives had brought the industry to its knees. Tom Gutteridge, chairman of the Producers' Alliance for Cinema and Television, said: "We want to re-establish the UK as a key supplier of popular movies made for a world-wide audience. What we don't want to do is whinge."

Mr Gutteridge outlined measures to revitalise the industry "without costing the taxpayer a penny". He called for a new Films Act to guarantee a minimum level of investment and to implement tax-breaks for film-makers. An annual percentage of gross UK revenues from cinema chains, distributors and satellite film channels should be invested into the industry with a 100 per cent tax write-off in the first year as a reward.

That would generate a low estimate of £60 million a year for new production, Mr Gutteridge said. The overall economic benefits of a thriving film industry would more than compensate investors and the Government. More meetings are planned with government ministers, including Peter Brooke, the Heritage Secretary.

Mr Puttnam said: "We need to give the lie to the notion that the American film industry has never been supported by government. It has. And if we were treated in the same way we would not be in the position we are in." Mr Hoskins said that Britain was losing millions of pounds by failing to keep home-grown talent in the UK. "For years, Hollywood has been making a fortune and Italy has been making a fortune out of the British and it is about time we started making a fortune for ourselves.

"I would love to be able to get up and go to work, and then go home to Linda and the kids, but I can't."



Farmers 'will have to accept drop in income'

By Michael Hornsby
Countryside Correspondent

FARMERS will have to accept lower incomes in future because the present level of public subsidy is economically and politically unsustainable, according to a report by the National Farmers' Union.

The document, unveiled yesterday by David Naish, the NFU president, accepts for the first time that farmers' livelihoods might be better secured in the long term by dispensing with the special protection they have enjoyed for decades. It says that abolishing guaranteed prices may be the best of various unpalatable options facing farmers.

"The recent Gatt [General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade] settlement is perhaps most notable for the almost universal support for freer trade. There is now a wide consensus that trade restrictions and distortions can no longer be easily justified," the report says.

Ian Gardiner, the NFU's director of policy, said: "The great advantage of getting rid of price support is that it would eliminate the surpluses, bringing production back into line with demand. It would also reduce food prices in the shops."

☐ Six new conservation zones, where farmers are paid to preserve the diversity of plants and wildlife on their land, were launched yesterday by Gillian Shephard, the Agriculture Minister. There are now 43 such zones spread across Britain.

Gloucester search reunites five families

By A Staff Reporter

FIVE missing women have been reunited with their families as a result of the discovery of nine bodies at a house in Gloucester, police disclosed yesterday.

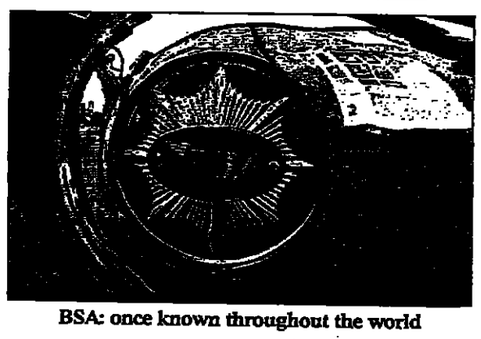
The women, in their late teens and early twenties, have been located by detectives trying to identify one of the victims whose remains have been found at 25 Cromwell Street. Det Chief Insp Terry Moore said: "Thanks to our efforts to establish the identity of one of the women found buried in the garden at Cromwell Street, we have made five families a great deal happier.

"We have been working closely with the Missing Persons Bureau in London and with their help we have put five families back in contact with their loved ones."

"Obviously, we need to eliminate as many missing women as possible from our enquiries to help us make positive identification of the remains we have found."

Fred West, who owns the house, has been charged with killing eight people, including his daughter Heather, 16, and his lodger Shirley Robinson, 18, whose bodies have been found in the garden. A third woman is thought to be a friend of Shirley Robinson's, but has not been identified. Police are understood to know the identities of all six bodies found inside the house.

Police are expected to be continue investigations at the house for some days before they begin digging in a field in Kempley, Gloucestershire.



BSA: once known throughout the world

New bike heralds return of a classic

By Kevin Eason, Motoring Correspondent

BSA, one of the most famous motorcycle badges in the world, could be revived before the end of the year.

Plans to produce a modern version of the classic bikes are being put together by the consortium which has taken over the Norton motorcycle company.

The bike, probably to be called the BSA Gold Star, could be a small 250cc or 350cc machine aimed at wooing young buyers away from the Japanese manufacturers who wiped out the British motorcycle industry in the 1960s.

It is likely to sell for under £10,000 and have a "retro" look, taking the bike back to its roots when British-built machines were considered the world's finest. BSA was a leading player in an industry which dominated the globe with names such as Ariel, Triumph and Norton, popular in markets as far apart as America and India.

BSA was the most famous. Starting in 1861 as the Birmingham Small Arms Company at Small Heath, the company diversified into motorcycles to smooth out the peaks and troughs of arms manufacturing. It was eventually merged with Norton Villiers to form the ill-fated co-operative.

The new Canadian owners of Norton Motors (1993) say they want not just to revive the company but to revive the names of Norton and BSA as classic marques.

Humberside pays £1.42 a second for bridge too far

By Ian Murray

THIRTEEN years after it was opened by the Queen and hailed as the great white hope of a depressed region, the Humber Bridge has become a great white elephant, losing money at the rate of £1.42 a second.

The bridge has seen traffic double over the past decade while the income from it has more than trebled. Yet only an Act of Parliament can check its plunge into ever deeper debt.

The bridge across the Humber estuary was built to replace an ageing ferry service and cut 50 miles off the road journey from Grimsby to Hull. In 1981 its 510ft towers were a symbol of dynamism and hope.

Some 15,000 vehicles cross the bridge every day but they pay enough only to service 25 per cent of the interest charges on the bridge's debt. More than £80 million has been paid back against the original £98 million government loan to build it but the total debt is now £439 million and rises at £1.42 a second.

The Conservative Government voted the money to build the bridge in 1971, when the estimated cost was £28 million. However bad weather, technical difficulties and industrial disputes during the Labour Government of the late 1970s meant it took nine years to build instead of the proposed four or five. Before the first paying customer drove across, interest charges had already increased the size of the debt to £151 million.

The tolls, fixed low to encourage cross-estuary traffic and create a Humberside economy and identity, can only be raised after lengthy and expensive public enquiries. They have been held at £1.60 for cars and £10.90 for six-wheel lorries since 1989.

For each of the past two years the Government has reluctantly agreed to freeze the debt, taking all the bridges operating profits and then writing off the remainder of the interest charges.

Roger Evans, the bridge master, explains: "No money changes hands. They have a big book down there in London where they move stuff about between columns. We could maximise income by trebling the tolls. We would probably lose half our traffic but the extra money would more than compensate, although it would never be enough to repay the debt."

The Labour-controlled Hull City Council, which has a majority on the management board, wants to hold tolls as low as possible to aid local economic growth. The Government will not introduce the legislation needed to write off the debt and wants to see tolls rise automatically in line with inflation.

For the doomed Humberside County Council the tolls are already far too high and have turned the bridge into a barrier between the two sides of the estuary.

"People on the south bank are expected to use facilities like the hospital and leisure park, which are only a few miles away across the bridge," Steve Scully, the council spokesman, says. "Because they have to pay an extra £3.20 for a round trip they don't even think of making the crossing and feel cut off. The bridge which was meant to unite Humberside has ended up by dividing it in two."

BRIDGE OF SIZE

Total length:	7,284ft
Clearance over high water:	98ft
Total length of wire:	44,000 miles
Two main cables:	14,948 wires of 5mm diameter
Diameter of main cables:	27ins
Load in each cable:	19,000 tons
Weight of main cables:	10,800 tons
Weight of steel decking:	16,250 tons
Weight of concrete:	472,000 tons
External paint surface area:	30 acres
Internal paint surface area:	60 acres

CHRIS HARRIS



Bridge master Roger Evans, who believes the toll charges could be trebled

Police called in as airline leaves 1,800 stranded

By Christopher Elliott and Harvey Elliott

THE City of London fraud squad was called in last night to investigate the affairs of Tajik Air, a fledgling airline servicing the former Soviet republic of Tajikistan, after complaints by creditors owed nearly £3 million.

Tajik Air suspended flights more than a month ago. About 1,800 British passport holders are stranded awaiting flights home and hundreds have been besieging travel agents in Britain seeking refunds for pre-paid tickets.

Tajik Air's last flight was on February 14 and last week its sole leased aircraft, a 244-seat Boeing 747-200 SP, was taken back by United Airlines, one of the creditors.

The airline was set up last December to fly routes from London to Tajikistan, via Delhi and Karachi. It began its life with the help of Introcom, a London-based consultancy whose directors include Lord Moyne, Sir Charles Blois and Michael Wynne-Parker.

Documents seen by *The Times* show that Mr Wynne-Parker made persistent promises since January that the Tajikistan government would pay bills for leasing, travel agents and general running costs. Matters came to a head two weeks ago when a delegation of creditors met Abdujalil Samadov, the Prime Minister of Tajikistan, in at a London hotel. Later that night Mr Samadov attended a private dinner — also attended by Baroness Thatcher — given by Mr Wynne-Parker.

The creditors gave Mr Samadov a letter on behalf of more than 20 American crew members, mainly former employees of Pan Am. Five Tajik crew members have been stranded in London since February.

Mr Wynne-Parker, who describes himself as an honorary consul of Tajikistan, is in Sri Lanka. He told airline staff at their offices in Kensington this week that cash was being raised on the strength of letters of credit issued by the Tajikistan government.

Lord Moyne said Introcom had no financial involvement in the airline "as such". They were waiting for cash from the Tajikistan government to pay debts. He said: "They have promised it time after time but in the end have not produced. One tends to rely on government guarantees in these matters."

Border clashes, page 11

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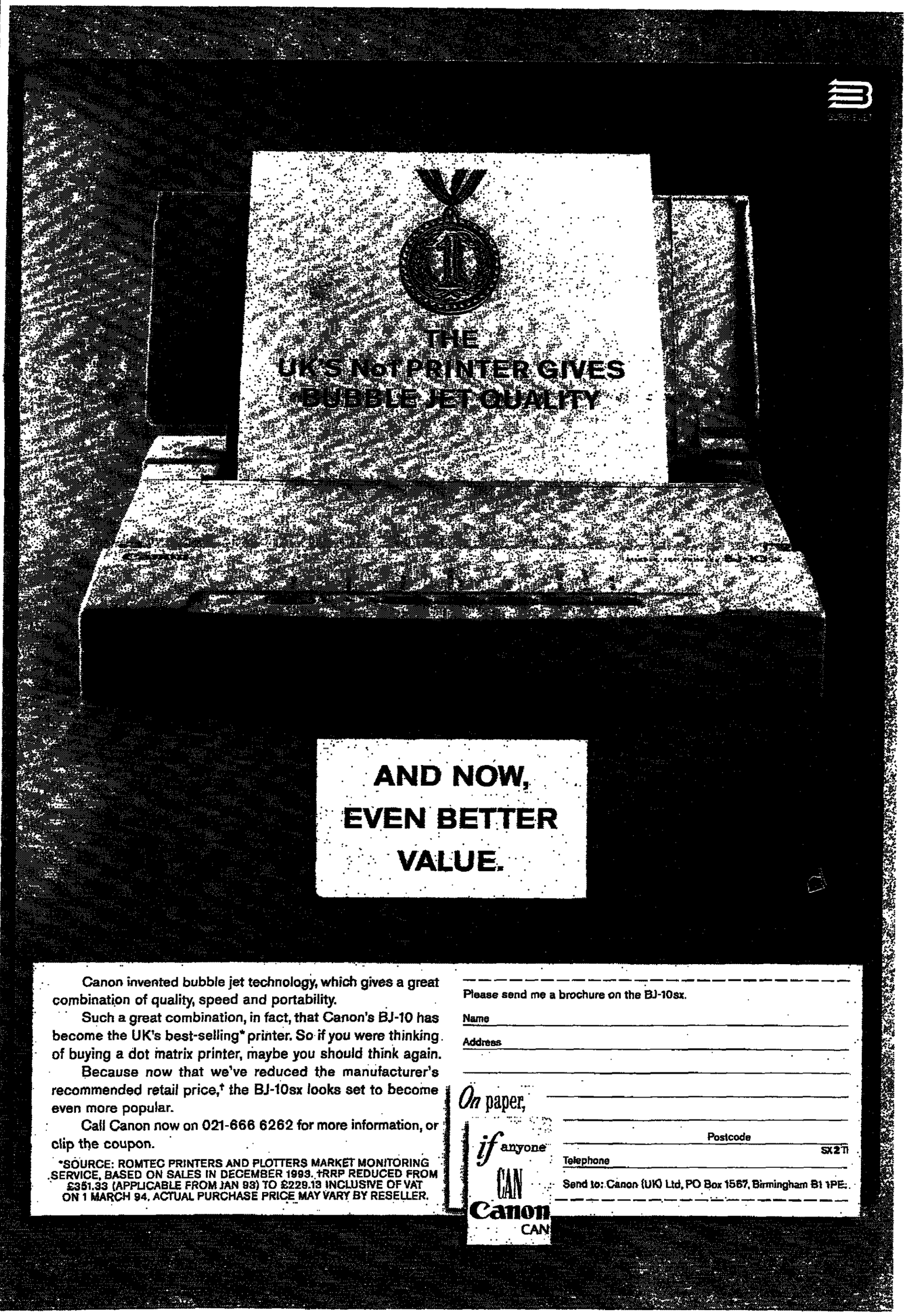
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"We have every right to go all-out for victory. This is a two-man race between the Liberals and Labour" — Marilyn Birks

Eastleigh parties vie for an early lead

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE normally quiet 8.05 train from Waterloo to Eastleigh was packed yesterday with mobile phone-wielding politicians and Japanese film crews.

The by-election campaign in the late Stephen Milligan's Hampshire constituency is vital to the electoral fortunes of all three parties and is already well on its way. Despite the fact that John Major has yet to name the polling day, everyone is assuming it will be May 5, the day of the local elections.

Eastleigh at first sight looks gift-wrapped for the Liberals, but all three parties can identify enough traditional ground to envisage victory. The Tories have also been buoyed by Labour's sudden interest in gaining a toehold in the South. This could split the negative vote, and they will do little to hinder Labour's efforts.

The opposition parties have decided not to sneer at the bizarre circumstances of Mr Milligan's death. Instead they will concentrate on rail privatisation, keeping jobs at the local Pirelli cable factory, attacking the deep unpopularity of the Government and making sure Southampton Football Club does not migrate to Eastleigh.

All three parties are aware that their candidates are under intense scrutiny and have gone for safe, if not always inspiring, options.

Tony Blair, the shadow Home Secretary, came down yesterday with 40 Labour MPs in tow to announce Marilyn Birks as Labour's candidate. Mrs Birks, although born in Liverpool, is the only candidate living locally. A former actress, she revelled in her first press conference. Now a lecturer in higher education, she has an engaging face, bright red lipstick and aubergine hair. Living in Chandlers Ford, the elegant tree-lined suburb, she will appeal to former Tory voters who share her dinner parties.

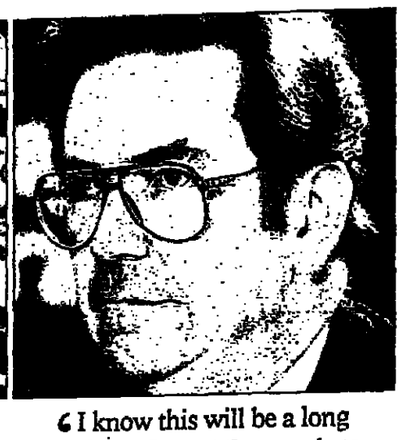
She is not concerned that too positive a campaign by Labour could let the Tories slip in. "We have every right to go all-out for victory. A vote for Liberal Democrats would merely be a protest. A vote for Labour would be a positive statement that people want a change in government. This is a two-man race between the Liberals and Labour."

Her main issues will be job security and taxation. She blustered on the "creeping privatisation of the health service" and on increases in taxation, but said that Labour would campaign positively and produce clear guidelines on their national policies. She realises that as the only woman and a working mother she may have an advantage.

Labour has already nicknamed the Tory candidate Stephen Reid four-by-two, referring to his two marriages and four children. Mr Reid, 42, an unemployed former data processing manager, was at the Hedge End constituency social club yesterday, next door to where a protester threw an egg at John Major at the last election. He has spent the past week being taken through his paces by Conservative Central Office and has learnt by rote the manifesto.



"I will be able to have great sympathy with the unemployed" — Stephen Reid



"I know this will be a long haul, but I want the people to get involved" — David Chidgey

Many local Tories still wish that Jacqueline Foster, also on the shortlist, had been chosen. "Reid is a man in a grey suit who is basically a fall guy. What they want is someone who would come out fighting," said one.

Although he was not selected during the 1992 elections, Mr Reid firmly denies any implication that he is there to carry the can for a potentially disastrous defeat. The Tories will concentrate on local issues. "The Liberal council has put council taxes up by 14 per cent. If we put up taxation it is because we need to. The opposition do it because they want to," he said.

Pro-Maastricht, he is a Major man and a great lover of cricket. "I'll be able to have great sympathy with the unemployed. Being divorced shouldn't make a difference."

The Liberal Democrat candidate, David Chidgey, 51, is trying to fit in interviews and canvassing with his job as an associate director of a civil engineering company. A good friend of Paddy Ashdown's who has already been down to support him, he fought the general election in Eastleigh.

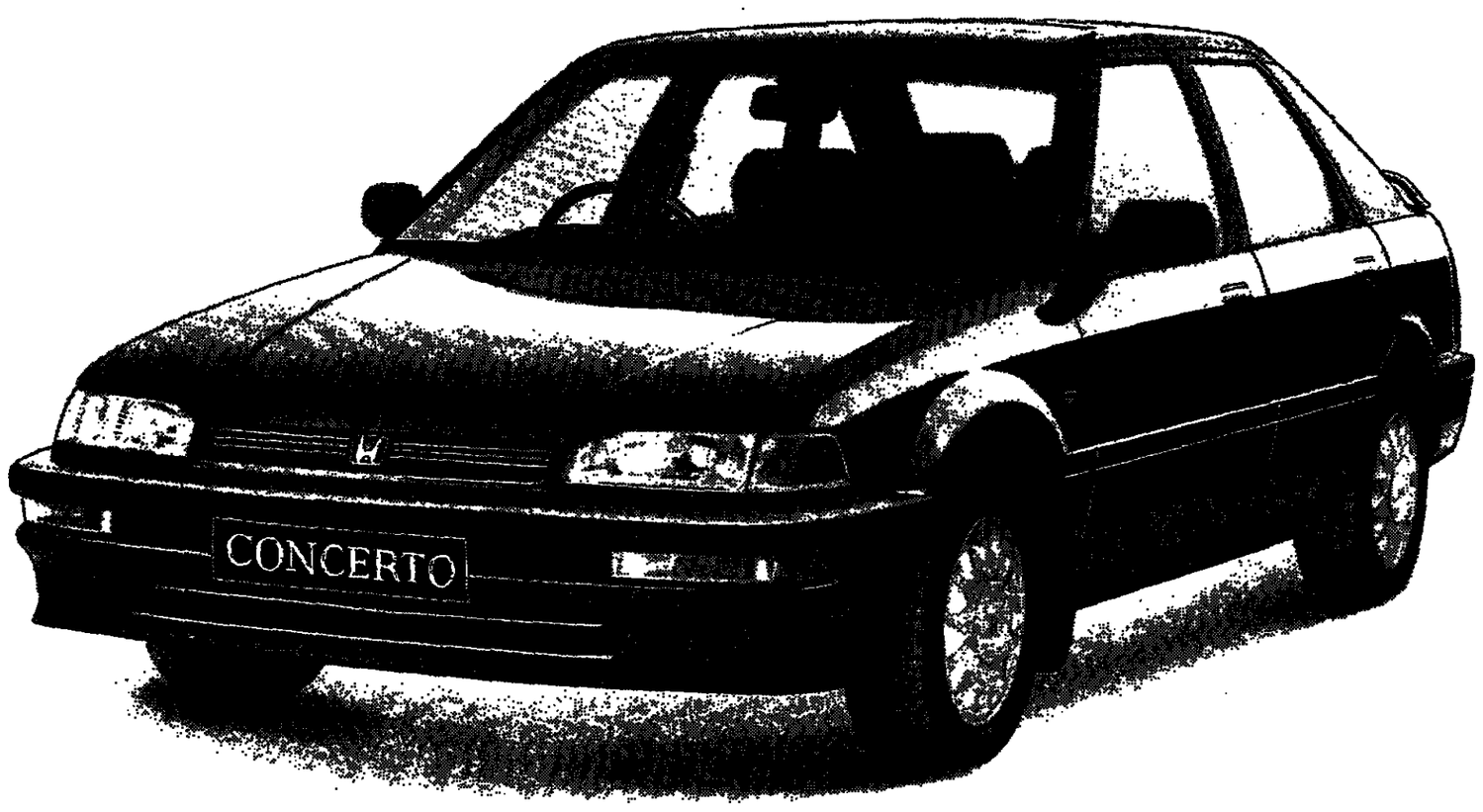
"People have given up on politics. We have got to make sure they know their votes count. Labour is marginalised here and has been for years," he said.

Mr Chidgey is not interested in Liberal policies such as legalisation of prostitution. He will campaign on "honesty and credibility". He said: "I am not naïve. I know this will be a long haul, but I want the people of Eastleigh to get involved."

Voters are so far unimpressed by all three candidates. The taxi drivers are getting more business but the Japanese film crews have got nowhere. Voters seem unimpressed that by polling day they are likely to have had a handshake from Mr Ashdown, the shadow cabinet and Mr Major — if he doesn't think he will get egg on his face again.

☐ **1992 general election result: Stephen Milligan (C), 38,998; David Chidgey (LD) 21,296; Jo Sugrue (Lab) 15,768. C maj 17,702.**

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Council tax 'less under Tories'

BY NICHOLAS WOOD
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

COUNCIL tax bills for the typical house will average £131 less under Tory local authorities than under Labour, John Gummer said yesterday as skirmishing for the May 5 elections intensified.

The Environment Secretary said that from April average tax bills for band C homes — worth £52,000 to £68,000 — would be £429 in Tory areas, £560 (Labour) and £496 (Liberal Democrats). Bills for band A houses (up to £40,000) would be £99 higher on average under Labour; for band B £115 higher; for band D £148 higher; for band E £181 higher; for band D £214 higher; for band G £246 higher and for band H (houses over £320,000) £297 higher.

But Jack Straw, the shadow Environment Secretary, said that comparisons should be based on the average council tax bill per household — the total council tax requirement in an area divided by the number of dwellings. "The truth for John Gummer is that the average household in Labour areas pays £40 less than in Tory areas."

But Central Office said in a briefing paper that it was ridiculous to use the average council tax bill. Mr Straw was effectively comparing band A and B taxes in Labour authorities with band E and F bills in Tory ones. "The only sensible way ... is to compare like with like. If someone is living in a band D house in (Labour) Lambeth they want to know how much less they would pay for the same house in (Tory) Wandsworth."

Ashdown stakes claim on Europe

BY JILL SHERMAN
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Liberal Democrats are "the champions of subsidiarity", Paddy Ashdown claimed yesterday as he sought to drive home the message that his party wanted to devolve rather than centralise power in Europe.

Speaking to industrialists in London the Liberal Democrat Leader said there were genuine worries about high labour costs in Europe and the dangers of over-prescriptive regulations and directives. The Liberal Democrats believed in devolving power to the lowest possible level, he said. "We were champions of subsidiarity long before the word was ever invented."

Mr Ashdown's comments underline concern that the party should temper its European enthusiasm as it launches its Euro-election campaign. The party's European document, launched last month, tried to play down the "federalist" word. Yesterday Mr Ashdown backed a stronger European Parliament which would have more control over Brussels. "You might find that vigorous MPs who actually had a bit of clout would be on your side in sorting out shortcomings at the Commission."

He also announced further details of the party's benefit transfer scheme, under which unemployment benefits for the long-term jobless would be given as subsidies to employers to take them on. Mr Ashdown suggested that the scheme would need to start with a full subsidy, of about £150 million a week, which would gradually taper off.



KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Karpov speaks

After his victory in the super-tournament at Linares in Spain, the Fide champion Anatoly Karpov gave a lengthy interview for *The Times*. Extracts will appear in this column over the next few days.

Karpov said: "My victory at Linares I can only compare with my wins at Montreal in 1979 and Moscow in 1981.

"I have not lost a game since number 20 of my Fide championship match against Jan Timman. I have now gone 33 consecutive games without defeat. Linares is my 125th victory in matches and tournaments, a world record.

"As for Kasparov, at Linares he played worse than his results show. In his game against Judit Polgar he did not know that the TV camera was filming the game. It is the first time in the history of chess that the champion took back a move."

Miniature masterpiece

A fascinating feature of Karpov's play at the Linares tournament was the way in which he undermined the psychological resistance of his opponents.

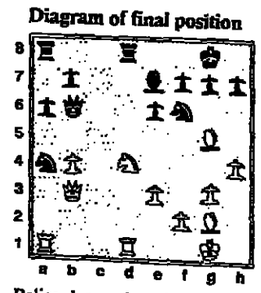
The ferocity of his will to win seems to have caused widespread panic among his opponents, many of whom succumbed almost without a struggle. This game is a case in point.

White: Anatoly Karpov
Black: Alexander Beliavsky
Linares, March 1994

Catalan

1	d4	Nf6
2	Nf3	d5
3	c4	e6
4	g3	Be7
5	Bg2	0-0
6	0-0	dxc4
7	Qc2	a6
8	a4	Bd7
9	Qxc4	Bc6
10	Bg5	Bd5
11	Qd3	c5
12	Nc3	cxd4
13	Nxd5	Qxd5
14	h4	Nbd7
15	Nxd4	Qd6
16	Rfd1	Nc5
17	Qc4	Rfd8
18	b4	Nxa4
19	Qb3	Qb6
20	e3	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Beliavsky resigned since his knight on a4 cannot escape.

Winning Move, page 44

Citizen's Charter helpline costs £68 for every call

BY MICHAEL DYNES, WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

THE 25 calls made every day to the Citizen's Charter telephone helpline cost the taxpayer £68 each, it was confirmed yesterday.

Nearly £500,000 has been spent on the helpline since it was set up on a trial basis in the East Midlands last May to provide callers with advice about public services.

A decision on whether to turn the Charterline pilot scheme into a fully-fledged national service will be taken by the end of the month.

More than £7 million has been spent on the Citizen's Charter initiative, including Charterline, Chartermark, and the Citizen's Charter Unit in Whitehall, which is responsible for promoting the scheme, since it was launched by John Major in July 1991.

This excludes the £14 million spent publishing and distributing the 38 public service charters, including British Rail's passenger charter, the NHS's patient's charter, and the Benefit Agency's claimant's charter, the cost of which is borne by individual public sector organisations.

Despite persistant criticisms of the Citizen's Charter, William Waldegrave, the Public Service Minister, yesterday insisted that the money was being well spent by "putting customers first, setting and publishing targets and raising standards", across the public sector. Publishing the second annual Citizen's Charter report, Mr Waldegrave said that there had been substantial improvements in public sector performance during the past three years, and announced more than 100 new charter commitments.

Achievements listed in the report include the 11 of Network SouthEast's 15 services which were more punctual in 1993 than the previous year, and the NHS's ability to treat three out of four patients in hospital within three months of being put on a waiting list.

From April, admission to hospital will be guaranteed within a month of the first time an operation is cancelled on the day of arrival, instead of the second time, as is the case at present. Comparative tables will be published for the first time showing how hospitals and ambulance authorities in England and Wales have performed against six targets such as immediate assessment in emergency departments and ambulance response rates.

Other new commitments include granting council tenants the right to compensation for household improvements when their tenancy ends, and a simplified procedure for assessing personal tax liability.

Critics insist, however, that many of the charters are vaguely drafted and offer little more than the promise of improved services, while only six offer financial redress. A survey of the county courts in England and Wales, for example, found that almost 90 per cent failed to fulfil the commitments specified in the Courts' Charter.

Last year BR paid out almost £5 million to customers in compensation for late and cancelled trains, made up of £2 million in cash refunds and £3 million in season ticket discounts, roughly what it paid out under the BR compensation scheme before the charter scheme was launched. Similarly, London Underground paid out almost £100,000 in compensation in 1993. But it still has 100,000 claim forms unopened after the power failure on the Central line in November, which is expected to cost £250,000. Many observers feel the money would be better spent improving the network's dilapidated infrastructure.

Responding to the report, the National Consumer Council said: "While we welcome and support the Citizen's Charter initiative, progress so far has been quite disappointing. Many charters are weak and have serious omissions. More resources are needed to transform the initiative from good intentions to reality."

AROUND THE LOBBY

£2m grant for empty churches

MPs approved a 13 per cent increase in the grant the Government gives to the Church of England to look after redundant churches. In the next financial year the Treasury will provide £2.2 million, Iain Sproat, the National Heritage Minister, said. Sums of £2.5 million will be provided in each of the two following financial years.

With the Church Commissioners' contribution, £10.3 million will be available over the next three years.

The money is used for the upkeep of unused churches thought to be of historic or architectural interest. These buildings, Mr Sproat told MPs, ranged from 18th century churches in inner cities to a 12th century church near Tewkesbury.

Discourteous MP rebuked

Alan Duncan, the Tory MP who resigned as a ministerial aide after buying a cut-price council house, was in trouble with the Speaker yesterday. After asking a question about council tax levels, he left the Commons chamber while exchanges were continuing. Betty Boothroyd said it was a "gross discourtesy".

Mr Duncan apologised. He said had not realised that exchanges were continuing. More than 200 Labour and Liberal Democrat MPs have tabled a motion criticising the MP for Rutland and Melton for failing to answer questions about the council house purchase.

In Parliament

Commons (2.30): Questions: Northern Ireland; Prime Minister. Easter recess motion and Consolidated Fund Bill when various topics can be raised.
Lords (3): Police and Magistrates' Courts Bill, conclusion of report stage.

Hunt rebuffs union attempts to forge new relationship

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TRADE unions will have no direct role in deciding Government policy, David Hunt, the Employment Secretary, will say tonight, rejecting overtures from the unions for a new relationship.

Mr Hunt's remarks form the most significant statement for years by the Government on the future of unions in Britain. He will urge the unions to move out of politics into solely the economic arena.

Since taking over last autumn as general secretary of the TUC, John Monks has tried to forge a new relationship with the Government despite six main pieces of legislation since 1979 which the TUC has regarded as anti-union. Over the same period the unions have lost more than a third of their members.

But in a keynote policy speech tonight to a meeting of the Industrial Society, Mr Hunt will rejects such a new deal. Right-wingers in the Conservative Party have been suspicious of Mr Hunt's greater readiness to deal with the unions, and his speech is likely to be seen as an attempt to draw the party together on the issue and as further evidence of the likelihood of Mr Hunt being appointed party chairman in the summer.

Mr Hunt says he would like to see better working relations with unions and, borrowing a phrase used by Baroness Thatcher about the former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, cites Mr Monks and similar union modernisers as "people with whom I can do business".

However, he adds that unions must recognise their own limitations, and should not expect any return to the "wholly discredited" concept of joint economic management by Government, industry and the unions.

He will say: "It will not be restored. There will be no preferential status for unions on the inside of Government, and no direct role in the determination of policy."

While acknowledging the TUC's new intent to establish links with parties other than Labour, he will say that unions ought to abandon political posturing: "Trade unions need to move out of politics and into the economic arena."

He will say that the Tories have never sought the collapse of unions, but that they are in long-term decline, unable to recruit new members in growing sectors of the economy.



Hunt: "Unions need to move out of politics"

Think tank calls for radical health reform

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

HEALTH authorities should opt out of state control and set up as independent bodies providing health care for anyone who registers with them, says a leading right-wing think-tank today.

The Adam Smith Institute, which was influential in shaping health service reforms, calls on the Government to build on these changes by introducing more radical ideas. A report out today says the reforms have not gone far enough. "The internal market is creaking because too much rust has remained in the mechanism," says the author, Eamonn Butler.

The 80 district health authorities should be freed from ministerial control and become independent local providers, the report says. They would buy health care on a non-profit basis but would be self-managed. Patients who registered with these bodies would have access to GP services and hospital care.

GP fundholders should also be given greater freedoms. They would be allowed to use private capital to extend their facilities and would be able to perform operations which are now carried out in hospital. Patients would then have a choice between signing on to GP fund-holders or the new provident trusts.

□ *Unhealthy competition. The public-private mix for health.* Adam Smith Institute, 23 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BL

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Hurd talks himself into trouble over Europe

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The row over European enlargement and voting rights will sort itself out, probably next week. That usually happens with European rows. There are a number of possible formulae to ensure that the views of big countries like Britain cannot be brushed aside on the Council of Ministers. The blocking position of a group of two large countries and a smaller one could be retained.

That would be a sensible compromise, protecting British voting rights and clearing the way for enlargement. Douglas Hurd last night prepared the way for a deal, warning Tory MPs of the risks in delaying enlargement, a British priority since Baroness Thatcher's days. But the Government has made its task more difficult by its tactical mishandling. It has stirred the Euro-sceptic instincts of many Tory MPs while annoying other European countries. It is not just ritual: headlines about Britain against the rest of Europe. Issues of principle are involved, but they have already been conceded and the debate is really about how they should be applied in a changed situation.

The American Founding Fathers would have understood. They spent much of a hot summer in Philadelphia arguing about how to balance the rights of small states against big ones. The battle of Rhode Island against New York resulted in the compromise of a House of Representatives elected from districts with populations of roughly equal size and a Senate with two representatives from each state, however small or large. While the discussion was at a much higher level than now — just read the *Federalist Papers* — the end result was a classic political compromise. It is not equal but it has protected minority interests.

There is a similar argument now over qualified majority voting. Smaller countries have more votes per head than larger ones, in some cases nearly twice as many. But to prevent smaller countries outvoting larger ones, a group of two big countries plus a smaller one can block certain proposals. The arithmetic has been changed by enlargement and Britain has been keen to ensure that its voting rights are not diluted.

This was always going to be tricky and the Tory Euro-sceptics naturally do not want to shift from present arrangements. But since qualified majority voting has been accepted, and extended under the Single European Act, it is nonsense to argue that as a point of principle the formula cannot be adjusted at all to take account of enlargement. But many Tory MPs are not reconciled to the implications. There remains a gulf between the preference of many Tories for inter-governmental co-operation and the belief of many on the Continent that a larger European Union can only work through majority voting.

By taking a very firm line over the past ten days, the Government has encouraged unrealistic expectations. The strong statements of support yesterday for Mr Hurd's stance from the likes of Bill Cash and Teresa Gorman should make the Foreign Secretary look over his shoulder. Tough talk is necessary in negotiations, but by speaking in such uncompromising terms Mr Hurd has made the likely solution harder to sell. The Euro-sceptics may be protesting about betrayal in a week's time.

The incident underlines how easily Tory divisions over Europe can come to the surface, and how far Britain still is from the heart of Europe. The Prime Minister's attempt to balance the factions in his party continues to prevent Britain from adopting a coherent and constructive approach within Europe.

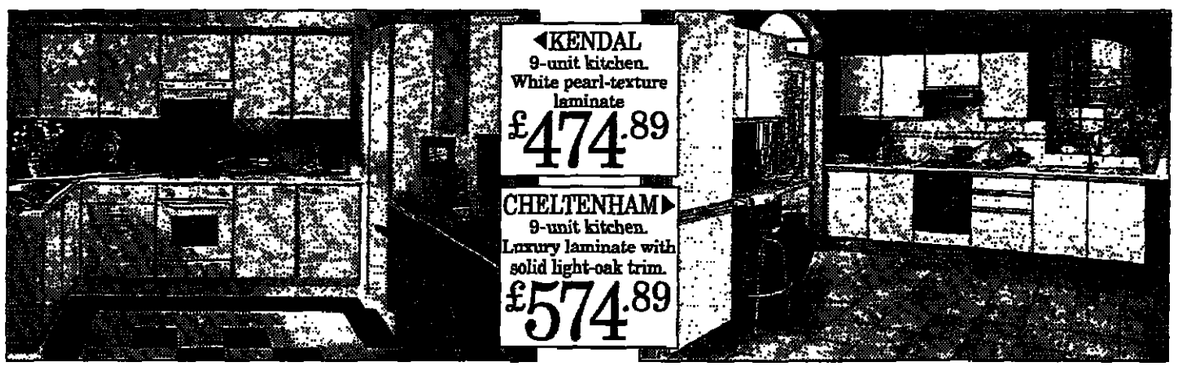
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British special forces brought in to establish new drop zones near Muslim pocket in central Bosnia

UN seeks new muscle to lift Serb siege of embattled Maglaj

FROM EDWARD GORMAN IN VITEZ AND TIM JUDAH IN ZAGREB

THE United Nations plans to lift the nine-month Serb siege of Maglaj, preferably with Serb consent, but using a "more muscular" approach if necessary, UN officials said on Wednesday. "We want to open the enclave to aid convoys and freedom of movement with the consent of the Serbs," a senior UN military official said yesterday. "We hope they volunteer their co-operation, but we wouldn't mind if they were coerced by [Russian special envoy Vitali] Churkin or by some other outside pressure."

The presence of British special forces in the town appears to reflect a tougher line from the UN, and in particular from the commander on the ground, Lieutenant General Sir Michael Rose. About 20,000 people in the Muslim town have been surviving on airdropped food for months. The pocket remains one few remaining areas of active warfare in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Last night the Bosnian ambassador to the UN, Mohamed Sacirbey, called for the besieged town to be declared a UN safe area. Speaking about the success of the two-week ceasefire in central Bosnia, he said: "Frankly, if Maglaj falls that will be reversed."

Larry Hollingworth, of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said yesterday: "This is just another example of brinkmanship ... where they [the Serbs] want to push the United Nations' resolve to the last raw nerve." Several UNHCR convoys trying to get to Maglaj have been turned back and another effort might be made today. In the wake of the successive failures, Sadako Ogata, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, has asked President Milosevic of Serbia to use his influence with the Bosnian Serb leadership to allow the convoys in.

Yesterday Gary Knight, a photo-journalist with the Saba Agency based in London, said conditions in the enclave were not as bad as had been feared. "There is plenty of food: I don't think anyone is severely malnourished," he said. "The local administration is well organised and there is a systematic way of feeding at several soup kitchens. I don't think people are going to starve if a convoy doesn't get in."

While his assessment may also be reflected by the soldiers in their report to General Rose, there is a strong feeling here that an opportunity now exists to break the Serb stranglehold in the wake of the UN's success in threatening the use of air power in Sarajevo and the peace agreement in central Bosnia. Mr Knight said local military sources inside Maglaj believed a small amount of outside pressure would be enough to achieve a breakthrough, especially to the south of the pocket between Maglaj and Zepce where one part of the front line is still held by Croat (HVO) forces.

He added that the air drops had been very successful. British special forces, probably the SAS, were trying to make them even more so by looking for drop zones nearer to the town.

The developments in Maglaj came as Serbs from the disputed Krajina regions of Croatia and the Croatian government agreed to hold talks in Zagreb next week at the Russian embassy. The announcement was made yesterday by Mr Churkin, and marks another coup for Russian diplomacy in the area. Krajina, which comprises almost a third of Croatian territory, was taken from the Croats during the war of 1991 and is nominally under UN control.

Mr Churkin was in Belgrade for unexpected talks with Milan Martic, the president of the self-declared Republic of Serbian Krajina. The Russian envoy said that the talks were aimed at securing a general ceasefire. He called the Krajina issue "thorny and very explosive". For the last month Croatian forces, buoyed by their deal with Muslims, have, according to UN sources, been making incursions into Krajina.

Special forces, page 1



General Jean Cot, left, taking a celebratory ride yesterday in a horse-drawn cab with his adjutant in Zagreb, the Croatian capital, after handing over command of the United Nations troops in former Yugoslavia to his fellow Frenchman, General Bertrand de la Presle



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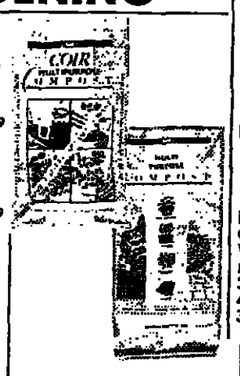
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Scientist says Russians still defy chemical weapons ban

■ Moscow's first post-Soviet political prisoner is out of jail. He has told of appalling injustices, and attempts to hoodwink the world over deadly arms

BY NICHOLAS BETHELL

Vil Mirzayanov, who became Russia's first post-Soviet political prisoner for revealing Russia's continuing chemical weapons programme, has been released from the Matrosskaya Tishina jail in Moscow.

Dr Mirzayanov has been told that the case against him, on charges carrying up to eight years in prison, has been dropped for lack of evidence. At his flat in Moscow he said: "I was called to the Ministry of Justice by Lev Baranov, the prosecutor in my case.

"He apologised to me on behalf of A. N. Ilyushenko, Prosecutor-General of the Russian Federation. I told him that I would be taking the 'new KGB' to court for the great moral and material damage they caused me these past 18 months."

Dr Mirzayanov, 58, spoke of "barbaric conditions" in the prison. Men were held there, sometimes for years, while their cases were investigated, with no visits permitted from friends or family. He described having to stand recently with 50 other prisoners, all naked because of the heat, in a cell infested with rats, cockroaches, bedbugs and lice, and so small that no one could lie down or even sit.

Dr Mirzayanov worked for more than 25 years in a large military chemical research institute on Enthusiasts' Avenue in Moscow. In 1990 he was one of the first to resign from the Communist Party to join the democratic movement. In October 1992 he blew the whistle on his old firm, revealing that Russia's chemical warfare industry, despite the 1989 Bush-Gorbachev agreement to destroy all chemical weapons and end production, was producing a new binary substance in Volgograd eight times more poisonous than anything possessed by the Americans. He was immediately arrested.

In early 1992, he said, field trials of the new gas were held on the Ustyurt plateau in what was by then the independent state of Uzbekistan, without the knowlege of President Karimov, the Uzbek leader.

"In other words, we pulled the wool over the Americans' eyes good and proper," he said. When the Americans found out later that year what was happening, they said nothing for fear of making Mr Bush look foolish in the run-up to the presidential election.

Dr Mirzayanov talked of past years in the Soviet military chemical establishment in Chapayevsk, where soldiers who were thought by the authorities to be of poor quality were put to work pouring lewisite, a deadly poisonous arsine derivative, from buckets and teapots into artillery shells. Many of them died. Then there was the great "white sea" accident when tons of poison were discharged into the Volga river, turning it white with the bellies of dead fish.

Russian scientists and generals, he says, continue their terrible work on chemical warfare even today. Accidents are frequent. They carry on working because it is the only trade they know and because chemical warfare has no possibility of "conversion" into peaceful work.

The Russian authorities have decided that the poisons to be destroyed under the Bush-Gorbachev agreement should be dealt with by those who made them. This is being done, he says, by burning the poisons in the open air in remote Russian localities, with disastrous results for the environment.

It is estimated by Dr Mirzayanov that up to 50 per cent of those in Russian labour camps may be innocent of the charges on which they were convicted. He attributes his own escape from a long prison term to "pressure by Amnesty International, the European Parliament, the American Academy of Sciences and the Russian democratic movement".

Those who have no such friends are still wrongly convicted in large numbers. Aleksksi Smirnov, the former Soviet dissident who is now chairman of the Centre for Human Rights in Moscow, said: "You must not imagine, just because the Soviet Union has gone, that Russia is now a country with monitors. We need observers. We need Western non-governmental organisations with staff and equipment. We need a civilised parliament. Then maybe we can make progress."



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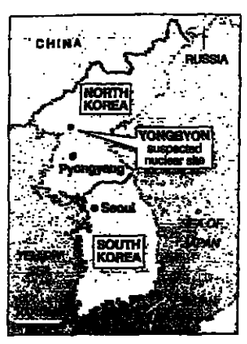
■ Pyongyang's reluctance to co-operate with nuclear inspectors may revive the confrontation with Washington, which has threatened to seek sanctions

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

INTERNATIONAL inspectors sent to investigate North Korea's nuclear programme were prevented from taking samples and found that four seals on nuclear material had been illegally broken, raising new suspicions that Pyongyang is trying to develop a nuclear bomb.

The inspectors' findings could spark a new confrontation with the United States, which has threatened to seek sanctions if North Korea does not co-operate with international efforts to monitor its nuclear programme.

The seven-member inspection team returned to the International Atomic Energy



Agency (IAEA) headquarters in Vienna on Tuesday, and the agency is now assessing their findings. Sources said yesterday that the inspectors had been prevented from taking samples from a "glove box" in which nuclear material is handled at the main nuclear plant, and found that four seals placed on bins of nuclear material during previous inspections had been broken.

Hans Blix, director of the agency, yesterday called a special meeting of its board of governors for Monday. At the same time, the agency's secretariat delivered an interim report to the governors and issued a terse statement that "important measures which had been agreed were refused at the radiochemical laboratory in Yongbyon."

It is not yet clear whether at Monday's meeting Mr Blix will declare North Korea to be in non-compliance with its nuclear safeguards agreement — a move that could trigger United Nations sanctions — or will decide that the agency has enough information to be confident that North Korea is not developing a nuclear bomb.

One possibility is that the agency might try to send its inspectors back to complete the inspection. A Western diplomat predicted yesterday, however, that a meeting between American and North Korean officials scheduled for Monday would be cancelled.

In an effort to win North Korea's co-operation for nuclear monitoring, the US had offered to hold a new round of talks if the inspection went off satisfactorily and if North Korea exchanged diplomatic envoys with South Korea. The diplomat said it was unlikely that either condition would be met.

This suspicion was reinforced by a meeting yesterday of North and South Korean officials which broke up with no progress having been made. The meeting was aimed at clearing obstacles to the exchange of envoys. Southern officials said Pyongyang was trying to delay the exchange.

Although the US is expected to seek sanctions if the agency issues a negative report, China has said it will block punitive measures with its veto in the Security Council.



A Russian border guard in Tajikistan, his sniper's rifle close at hand, writing a letter from his post near the frontier with Afghanistan

Russia tells Tajik rebels to lay down their arms and negotiate

RUSSIA, a strong supporter of the Tajikistan Government, has warned Tajik rebels based in Afghanistan that they cannot achieve their aims by military means (Michael Binyon writes). Speaking yesterday after talks with President Rakhmonov, whose Government is to open talks soon with the exiled rebels, Andrei Kozyrev, the Russian Foreign Minister, said that "reasonable dialogue" could resolve the conflict. On Tuesday the leaders of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgizia endorsed a Tajik appeal for the 25,000 troops, mainly Russians, deployed along the Tajik-Afghan border to become United Nations peacekeepers. Western governments have urged President Rakhmonov to allow back Muslim fundamentalist opposition groups that fled south after defeat in the 1992 civil war.

Air scandal, page 7

Rao silent on £1bn Hawk deal

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

P. V. NARASIMHA Rao, the Indian Prime Minister, left Edinburgh yesterday for Delhi after a four-day visit to Britain that gave a boost to political and economic relations and won a commitment from India that it was ready to begin talks soon with Pakistan over Kashmir.

But Mr Rao, who spent the final day of his trip looking at a reforestation project in Scotland that is training 14 Indian technicians, did not give any commitment that his country would buy the 66 Hawk aircraft, costing more than £1 billion, for which Britain has been lobbying strongly. The arms deal, one of the largest in prospect for British industry, is vital for jobs, but no decision is expected before September at the earliest. Both John Major and Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, put in words of support for the Hawk.

British officials said yesterday that Mr Rao's visit was useful in making clear to British business the potential of the Indian market, where 260 million people — a third of the population — have a working knowledge of English and the middle class is as large as that in America.

The visit was marked by a convergence of views on most political issues. Mr Major and Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, were reticent over Kashmir, although many from the subcontinent had sought a tougher stance. Indian sources said there was no evidence for Mr Rao's assurance to the Prime Minister that Delhi was preparing for a swift resumption of a dialogue with Pakistan.

Hostage cardinal free after Brazil jailbreak

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

A BRAZILIAN Roman Catholic cardinal and 12 members of a human rights commission, taken hostage by prisoners, were freed after more than ten inmates used them as pawns to break out of a maximum security jail in the northeast coastal city of Fortaleza.

The prisoners, who took hostage Cardinal Aloisio Lorscheider, a candidate for the papacy in 1978, were provided with weapons and a getaway car. Only by dawn yesterday were the last of the victims freed, more than 100 miles away from Fortaleza. The prisoners abandoned their vehicle after crashing into another car, and fled.

In Mexico City, kidnappers of Alfredo Harp Helu, the president of Mexico's biggest bank, Banamex-Accival, made contact yesterday with his family. There were no details on whether his abductors had demanded a ransom. Señor Harp Helu, a billionaire, is close to President Salinas de Gortari of Mexico.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Wellington proposes republic by 2000

Wellington: Jim Bolger, the New Zealand Prime Minister, said yesterday that the country could cut its ties with the monarchy and become a republic before 2000.

In the most detailed indication he has yet given that New Zealand could follow Australia in ending all colonial links with London, he said the end of the millennium would be an "appropriate symbolic moment" for change. *(Reuter)*

Atomic shots

Los Alamos: Eighteen people were injected with highly radioactive plutonium after Robert Oppenheimer, "father of the atomic bomb", suggested in a 1944 memorandum just released that the effects needed to be studied. Their fate is not discussed. *(Reuter)*

Strait closed

Istanbul: Polluted with oil spilt when the tanker *Nassia* collided with the freighter *Shipbroker* on Sunday, the Bosphorous remained closed for a third day even after the burning tanker was towed into the Black Sea. The death toll has risen to 19. *(Reuter)*

Asylum move

Bern: Reacting to criticism of asylum-seekers, Switzerland has passed a law increasing the powers of the police to jail foreigners who fail satisfactorily to identify themselves. The law also gives the authorities sweeping rights to search homes. *(Reuter)*

Villages taken

Battambang: Cambodian government forces have seized two front-line Khmer Rouge villages in an offensive aimed at capturing the guerrilla organisation's headquarters within days, according to Serey Kosal, Deputy Governor of Battambang province. *(AP)*

History frozen

Moscow: Russian scientists have found the preserved, frozen body of a Scythian woman who died 2,500 years ago and was buried in the Altai Mountains of Siberia, near the junction of the Russian, Chinese and Kazakhstan borders. *(AP)*

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AD 4168

Cameraman killed by tiger in Angola zoo rescue

■ A mercy mission by a "flying ark" saved animals from starvation in Luanda zoo. Eighty miles into the bush, Unita rebels had killed six aid workers

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

A FLYING ark yesterday brought 31 starving animals from war-torn Angola to Johannesburg, hours after a television cameraman was mauled to death by a tiger at Luanda zoo during the mission. Rick Lomba, 44, a cameraman who was also a producer and director of wildlife documentaries, was seized by the tiger after a safety gate was left open.

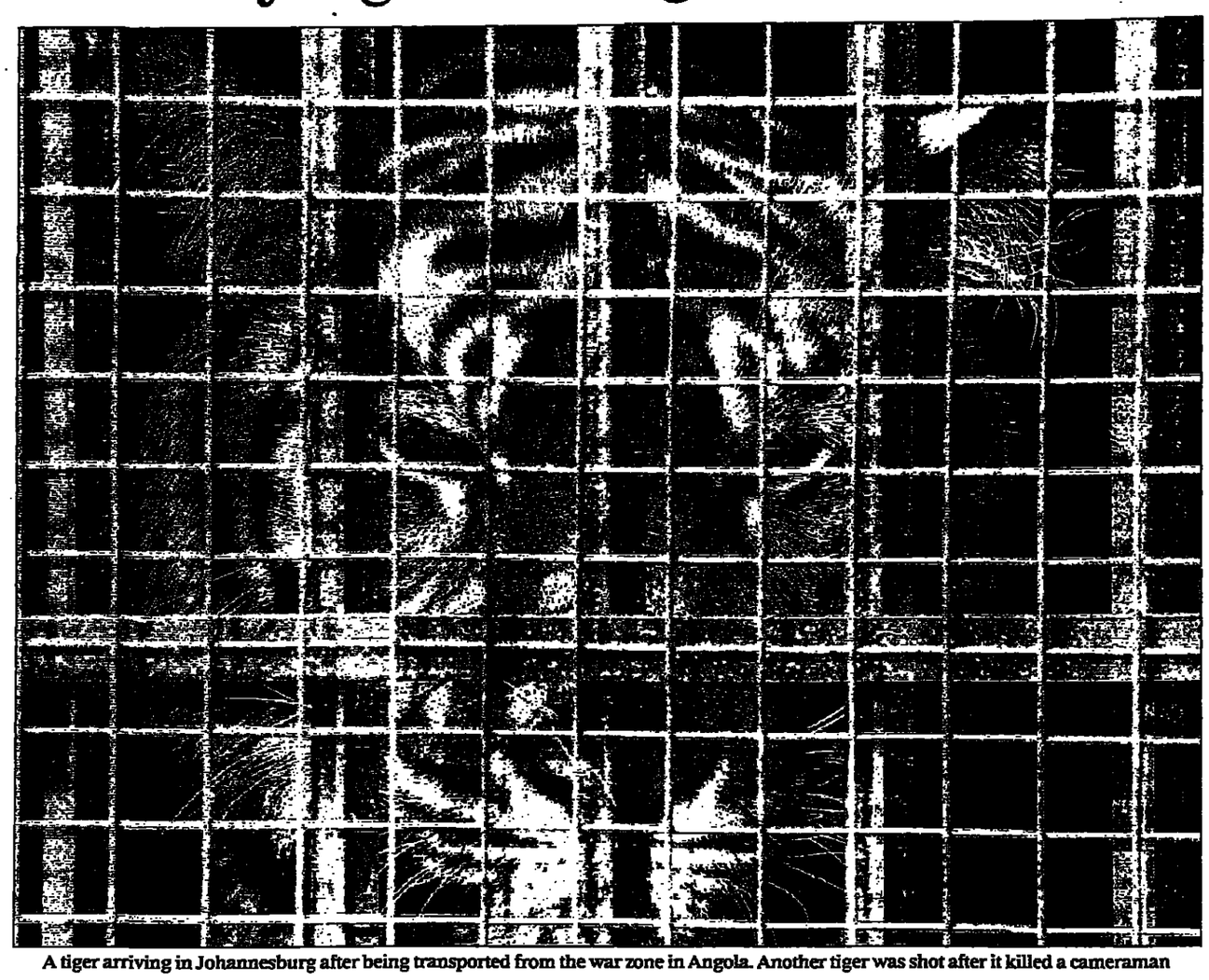
Quinton Coetzee, deputy director of Johannesburg zoo, who was co-ordinating the evacuation from Luanda, seized an AK47 from a guard and killed the animal. No one else was injured in the incident, which took place in an alleyway behind the cages.

"He was killed on the spot," said Marco Vercrysse, a Belgian photographer, who saw the attack on Mr Lomba. "One of the Angolan guys opened a gate but forgot to close another," he said. "He didn't stand the slightest chance." Roger Ballad-Tremeer, the head of South Africa's mission in Angola, dismissed the suggestion of irony involved in the expensive evacuation of the animals from a country in which aid workers say that at least 50,000 people have been killed since the civil war flared up again in 1992. "It is a small contribution to the general plight of the Angolan people," he said.

Six relief workers in Angola with the UN World Food Programme were killed and ten injured when their 20-truck convoy was ambushed on Sunday by Unita rebels, the Angop news agency said. The convoy had delivered food to refugees in Dondo when it was attacked with rockets near Zenza do Itombe, 80 miles southeast of Luanda.

During the animal evacuation, an ostrich and a buffalo died after being tranquillised for the journey. Last night the animals, most of which are to be taken to zoos in South Africa, were recovering in quarantine quarters at Johannesburg zoo. They included tigers, lions, buffaloes, hyenas, mongooses, chimpanzees and a brown bear. The animals had been starving in Luanda zoo after money for their upkeep had dried up.





A tiger arriving in Johannesburg after being transported from the war zone in Angola. Another tiger was shot after it killed a cameraman

NEWS IN BRIEF

CIA will 'follow the money' in spy hunt

Washington: In its first policy response to the Aldrich Ames spy scandal, the CIA decided to force its employees to make annual disclosure statements, and promised disciplinary proceedings against "certain categories of employees" who failed to take action against Mr Ames sooner (Wolfgang Münchau writes).

The announcement was made by James Woolsey, the director of the CIA, who said: "The major lesson about espionage, at least when Americans become spies, is the same lesson that 'Deep Throat' taught Woodward and Bernstein: Follow the money."

Mr Woolsey also promised that the agency would in future rely less on lie detectors as a means of uncovering spies, especially since agents received special training to pass polygraph tests. He also promised to review specific tests that have already been administered.

The inquiry into CIA security will be headed by an independent investigator, partly in an attempt to placate critics in Congress. The Ames spy scandal has led to questions whether America gets value for money in its intelligence operations, which are believed to cost $30 billion (£20 billion) a year.

Right reacts

Moscow: Russian conservative and nationalist opponents of President Yeltsin announced the formation of "Accord For Russia" to halt "mindless reform". Vladimir Zhirinovsky's hardline nationalist party was not included. *(Reuter)*

Clinton offer

Paris: President Clinton has been invited to address the French parliament on June 7, after ceremonies in Normandy marking the D-Day anniversary. Woodrow Wilson, in 1919, was the first and only American President to address the parliament. *(AP)*

Deformity fear

Bonn: Doctors have discovered 20 children born with severely deformed hands or arms near the German North Sea coast, similar to cases that raised fears about marine pollution in Britain and Ireland, German television has reported. *(Reuter)*

Hanoi overture

Hanoi: Chuan Leekpai, the Thai Prime Minister, gave firm support to Vietnam's plan to join the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean). Hanoi committed itself to "peace, independence and co-operation" in the region. *(AP)*

Soul success

Los Angeles: Toni Braxton won awards for the best single and the best album while Whitney Houston took the Sammy Davis Jr award after being named entertainer of the year at the annual Soul Train Music Awards. *(AP)*

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America seeks Israeli offer to bring PLO back into talks

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON AND CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

PRESIDENT Clinton met Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Prime Minister, at the White House yesterday as the US intensified its efforts to restart Israeli-Palestinian negotiations suspended after the massacre of at least 29 Palestinians in a Hebron mosque last month.

On Tuesday, Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, discussed with Mr Rabin ways of enhancing Palestinian security in Hebron and is said to have urged him to consider a PLO proposal that a Palestinian police force should be put in control of the West Bank town.

The Administration also announced that there would be a United Nations Security Council vote tomorrow on a resolution condemning the mosque massacre and calling for a "temporary international or foreign presence" in Hebron.

For more than a week the US had blocked the vote until the Palestinians agreed to return to the talks, but Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader, insisted that the vote had to come first. The US may still oppose the resolution if there is no progress before tomorrow in its discussions with the PLO.

The Israelis have strong reservations about the Palestinian proposal for a Hebron security force and object vehemently to the resolution's description of East Jerusalem as "occupied territory". US officials said Mr Christopher did not seek to put pressure Mr Rabin. However, he had emphasised that more needed to be done to bring the PLO back to the talks on implementing the limited Palestinian self-rule agreement that Mr Rabin and Mr Arafat signed at the White House last September.

In Israel yesterday, Shimon Peres, the Foreign Minister, said that Israel was willing to introduce additional and immediate steps to protect the Palestinian majority in Hebron. The offer was seen as a new attempt to try to stop the collapsing peace accord between Israel and the PLO becoming submerged in tit-for-tat violence.

The extent of the continuing security crisis was demonstrated during a violent day in which Israeli troops shot and wounded at least 60 Palestinians in clashes in Hebron and the occupied Gaza Strip, according to officials and Palestinian sources.

In Hebron, Israeli troops fought running battles with demonstrators when the army briefly lifted a curfew imposed since the massacre on February 25. According to local Palestinians, one 20-year-old Arab was shot in the neck and seriously wounded. About 30 people were wounded by rubber bullets and tear gas grenades fired during the clashes.

Palestinians said another 30 were wounded during day-long clashes in Gaza's Jabalya refugee camp, one of the worst trouble spots in the overcrowded Strip which houses about 800,000 Palestinians.



Hong Kong will suffer if US cuts trade, China says

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

QIAN Qichen, the Chinese Foreign Minister, expressed disappointment yesterday at the lack of results after three days of sometimes acrimonious talks here with Warren Christopher, the American Secretary of State.

He said that while Peking and Washington could withstand the loss of trade that would follow any revoking of China's most favoured nation trading status by America, Hong Kong and Taiwan — which would be also affected — could suffer worse consequences.

Mr Qian, presenting the Chinese perspective on the talks that ended on Monday and which floundered over Peking's refusal to bow to American demands for concessions on human rights, echoed similar disappointment expressed by President Clinton, saying: "We had anticipated more."

Mr Christopher had said here before leaving on Monday that Peking had provided information on 235 political prisoners, and had agreed to make available detailed information about the detention of 106 Tibetans. The two governments also agreed on safeguards to ensure that products made by Chinese prison labour would not be exported to the United States.

Diplomats here said that these were microscopic gains compared to what the Americans had hoped for. The Clinton Administration's policy is now in disarray since the strong US business lobby wants China's preferential trade status to be protected. But with Peking refusing to offer the necessary human rights concessions that would provide President Clinton with a fig leaf to make it politically acceptable to renew the special status, the President could enrage Congress.

☐ **New York:** A cheap Chinese-made version of the AK47 assault rifle is flooding America due to a legal loophole permitting the import of so-called sporting rifles. Described as "an AK47 in sheep's clothing", the SKS military-style rifle costs £86, according to an NBC television report. Showing footage of a Chinese freighter carrying 40 containers full of the rifles entering Los Angeles harbour, it said that the companies bringing the guns in were subsidiaries of the Chinese military.

Bellow brandishes his pen against cultural vigilantes

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

SAUL Bellow, 78, the American author recently voted the greatest living novelist writing in English by writers and critics in *The Sunday Times*, is the latest cultural icon to find himself hauled up by what he calls the "petty thought police" over political correctness.

Bellow, who says he has been pilloried as "an elitist, a chauvinist, a reactionary and a racist — in short a monster", has come under fire on two fronts for breaching the unwritten code of multi-culturalism.

In *The New Yorker* magazine of March 7, the writer Alfred Kazin, referring to a remark made by Bellow in 1988, said: "My heart sank when I heard that Bellow once said 'Who is the Tolstoy of the Zulus? The Proust of the Papuans?'" In a separate salvo, Brent Staples, a black writer, has published a memoir in which he describes reading *Humboldt's Gift* as a graduate student and the pain and resentment he felt at the way its white people describe blacks. "Black people in the book were sinister characters. Rinaldo refers to them as 'crazy buffaloes' and 'pork chops'," Staples writes in an extract published in *The New York Times* last month. "These passages made me angry. It was the same anger I felt when white people cowered as I passed them on the street."

In a blistering self-defence in *The New York Times*, Bellow responded by arguing that cultural "Stalinism" had created a situation where "we can't open our mouths without being denounced as racists, misogynists, supremacists, imperialists or Fascists". He pointed out that there was no Bulgarian Proust or, for that matter, an American Proust, and wondered wryly whether the White House should issue a *fatwa* against him for saying so and "set a price on my head for blaspheming against American high culture".

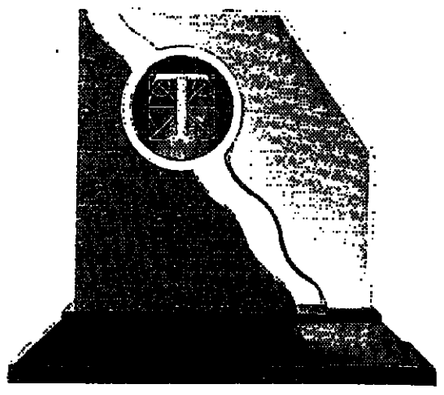
"My critics, many of whom could not locate Papua New Guinea on the map, want to convict me of contempt for multi-culturalism and defamation of the Third World. I am an elderly white male — a Jew, to boot. Ideal for their purposes."

He also points out the fallacy of assuming that the characters in a novel are a representation of the novelist's views. In the climate of multi-cultural McCarthyism, "no writer can take it for granted that the views of his characters will not be attributed to him personally," he wrote. "Open discussion of many major public questions has for some time now been taboo."

But, while defending his right to make observations about "preliterate" societies such as the Papuans and Zulus, Bellow also offered a remark that looked suspiciously like a sop to the very cultural vigilantes he attacks — or perhaps he was just trying to avoid another mugging at their hands. "Immediately after the telephone interview [in 1988]," he wrote, "I remembered that there was a Zulu novel after all: *Chaka* by Thomas Mofolo ... a profoundly, unbearably tragic book about a tribal Achilles."



Bellow: under attack by "petty thought police"



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Row over D-Day triggers French rebuke for Bonn

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

■ On the surface it is a spat over reconciliation and war. But the comments of a senior French official reveal a crisis of confidence between Paris and Bonn

A DISPUTE over German efforts to participate in D-Day celebrations yesterday flared into a Franco-German row, with Paris publicly questioning Bonn's foreign policy.

An anonymous, but evidently very senior French official catalogued complaints about Germany in an interview with the conservative *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. The trigger was the dsipute over D-Day. Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, had hoped that President Mitterrand would try harder to secure him an invitation to the fiftieth anniversary of the Normandy landings in June. Upset, the Germans called off a parade to mark the departure of Allied troops from Berlin.

This spurness is temporary, according to the French official. The problem of D-Day was not so much between France and Germany as "between Germany and Europe, between Germany and its past". Underlining the tiff, however, is a more fundamental crisis of confidence between Bonn and Paris.

"We need clarity from Germany, then we can understand Germany and go forward with it," the official said. The Germans, he said, should make clear that the move of the government from Bonn to Berlin does not affect Germany's commitment to Western Europe (and therefore the Franco-German relationship): "We need this confirmed."

The French outburst is remarkable because established channels provide ample opportunity for voicing discontent. One of these channels has evidently broken down. Diplomats speculated yesterday that there were two sources of tension.

First, the relationship between Alain Juppé, the French Foreign Minister, and Klaus Kinkel, his German counterpart, has deteriorated. Herr Kinkel has taken a very active role in the European enlargement discussions and, as he is also attempting to keep alive his Free Democratic Party before elections, he has had little chance to co-ordinate positions with M Juppé.

Second, there is confusion about whom Herr Kohl should talk to in France. His instinct is to intervene with President Mitterrand but German officials complain that verbal agreements at that level are not always implemented.

Herr Kohl does not have particularly warm ties with Edouard Balladur, the French Prime Minister, and many Franco-German initiatives are withering on the vine. Much has to be done to ensure that Franco-German reconciliation is not limited to friendship between two leaders, said the Frankfurt newspaper's source.

There is concern in Paris that the Franco-German relationship will suffer further if Herr Kohl loses the elections in October. The French official saw cause for alarm in Germany's plans to redefine its relationship with Russia, and its budding friendship with the United States. "French cooperation with Germany forms the basis of all progress in Europe; we are building the Europe of the next century together," the official said.

□ **Caen:** The mayor of Caen, invited the German ambassador to an evening peace commemoration marking the D-Day landing. *(AP)*



A Stuttgart firefighter inspecting the burnt-out flats yesterday and, below, a fire engine at the scene during the night



Seven killed in German blaze at foreigners' flats

Stuttgart: Seven people, including two children, were killed when a block of flats occupied mainly by foreigners burst into flames early yesterday, German police said. Seventeen people were injured, some of them badly.

The dead included a Croatian couple, a Turkish woman and her daughter, and a German woman and her daughter. The police said that the authorities were not ruling out arson as the cause of the fire. The fire brigade said that the wooden staircase of the five-storey building was in flames when they arrived, preventing people from escaping and hindering attempts by 50 firefighters to put out the blaze.

The dead included a mother and child who apparently had tried to hide from the flames by crawling under a bed. *(Reuter, AP)*

Polls point to election victory for Italian left

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

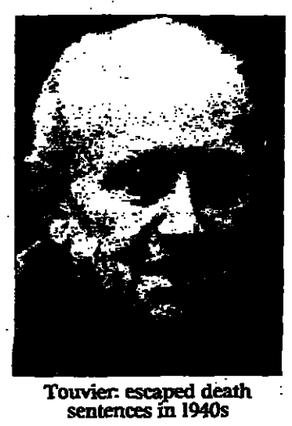
ACHILLE Occhetto, the f mer Communist leader, scer ed victory yesterday in Italy general election as opini polls showed a big swi away from Silvio Berlusco the media tycoon, and h right-wing Liberty Alliance.

Signor Occhetto, the secr tary of the Democratic Party the Left, which heads t Progressive Alliance, said excluded any agreement wi Signor Berlusconi and expe ed the left-wing grouping win and form a governmen

With ten days to go befo the election, private opini polls commissioned by oth parties now predict only per cent of the vote for Sign Berlusconi's Forza Italia a his mainly neo-Fascist alli and the devolutionist Nort ern League. Last month t polls had given his alliance per cent of the vote.

The media mogul, appea ing rattled by the change fortunes, is now seeking repr sentation in an eventual "co stituent government" cor posed of all shades of politic opinion, a concept that he h once scorned. Signor Berlu coni lost credibility after a tacking magistrate investigating alleged financi irregularities by five exec tives from Publitalia, the a vertising flagship of h Fininvest holding.

Trial of Vichy collaborator exposes hatreds in France's soul



Touvier: escaped death sentences in 1940s

The Pétain era was not so much an aberration as a reaction by those who rejected the new order after 1789, ***Charles Bremner*** *writes*

HALF a century after the event, France subjects itself to a history lesson today with the start of the trial of Paul Touvier, the Vichy militia official who stands accused of complicity in crimes against humanity.

No French citizen has previously faced such a charge and the Versailles assize court is the first and probably last tribunal to pass judgment on the nature of Marshal Philippe Pétain's regime and the zeal with which its officers helped the Nazis to persecute Jews and other minorities. M Touvier, nearing 79 and ill with cancer, has adopted what he calls the "Schindler defence". Like the factory owner celebrated in the Steven Spielberg film, he says he worked to save Jews by limiting the numbers that the Germans were ordering him to shoot. Survivors, however, portray him as a torturer and a murderer.

M Touvier cannot be tried for ordinary war crimes as the death sentences, passed in 1946 and 1947, lapsed under the 20-year statute of limitations. He escaped retribution thanks to sympathisers in high places and above all the Roman Catholic Church, whose traditionalist orders harboured him and his family for four decades. It was outrage over a pardon from President Pompidou in 1971 that finally set in motion the exceedingly slow wheels of justice. Now there is concern that, given the narrow charges involving the executions in 1944 of seven Jews, the trial could become bogged down in legal wrangling.

For the young, Vichy France is a foreign country. They cannot comprehend the ambiguous attitude of President Mitterrand, the former *maquisard* who until last year sent wreaths to Pétain's tomb and insists that the Republic he heads bears no responsibility for the era's crimes.

The relegation of Vichy to an ugly parenthesis in French history is self-deception. The ghosts are very much around and not just in the memories of the old men and women still fighting their battle. Vichy was not so much an aberration as an episode in a continuing civil war that has bred hatred and fuelled periodic bloodshed at least since the Great Terror of the Revolution, if not since Joan of Arc. In a country obsessed with historical animosities, the Pétainists of 1940 saw themselves as avenging the wrongs of 1789. Founding his state, the marshal was offering a return to the patriotism and religion abandoned at the Bastille.

At their most vindictive, these deep divisions breed a search for scapegoats, as they did in 1898 when at the height of the Dreyfus affair, tens of thousands marched shouting "Death to the Jews". The mood reappeared in the 1930s and led in 1943 to the *milice*, which swore an oath to purge "the Jewish leprosy". In later years, M Touvier's ecclesiastical protectors believed they were combatting "Freemasons, Jews, communists and democrats", according to the historian who investigated the affair for the Church. France, however, will not be shaken by the Touvier trial. The collaborationist nature of the wartime regime will no doubt be condemned for the record, but with a consensus now viewing it as ancient history, the judgment will act as a catharsis.

There may be uncomfortable moments though, among them the possible appearance of Edouard Balladur, the Prime Minister, as a witness. The defence wants M Balladur, as former chief of staff for Pompidou, to explain the basis of the 1971 pardon. At the time, the President said that it was time to close the book on the mutual hatreds of the French, something that has yet to happen.



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Myth of the meek mail-order bride

Small ads promising marital bliss with oriental or eastern European women smack of sex slavery, or meal tickets. But these days British men can be in for quite a surprise, says Joe Joseph

A new generation of British men, used to buying everything from pizzas to paperbacks over the telephone, are being jolted when they turn to the lonely hearts columns for a foreign mail-order bride. If they are expecting an exotic, eager-to-please wife by return of post, the shock can prove severe.

The problem is not a shortage of women. Manila's clampdown in the late 1980s on what it considered demeaning trade in girls means that Thailand and Eastern Europe now dominate the supply, but there are still plenty of them. The awkward bit, at least if you are a frumpy slob who was expecting to be mobbed by docile girls, is that many of these women have grown self-confident and picky enough to turn *their* noses up at *you*.

"Stephen", a successful 30-year-old who runs his own mail order business in Surrey, spent his twenties building up his business rather than his social life. Last April he flew to Bangkok on a trip arranged by a meet-Thai-girls-and-marry-them agency. Within two minutes of sighting Kol, aged 25, in the agency's Bangkok office he had elected. Within two days they had agreed to pair off. His family, and suspicious friends, had warned him beforehand that any prospective Thai bride would only be after a British passport and a secure life in England.

Were they right? "Kol's a wealthy businesswoman, exporting fruit to Japan. I drive a Granada. She's got a Mercedes and a BMW. She's far from this myth of a Thai woman who wants a meal ticket. She still spends a lot of time in Bangkok helping to run the family export business. The only culture shock she had when she came here was when she asked where the maid was. In fact when she stays here, I do all the cooking. Her first shopping trip was to Harrods. She's very strong-willed."

So why did she sign up? "In Thailand," says Stephen, "it's quite common for men to have more than one wife or mistress. Kol didn't like the idea of being second wife to anyone."

While the business is still tainted with the image of "sex slaves for sale", these days it can be as pukka as anything you are likely to find in the Irish newspapers' small ads.

Czechmate, which funnels Eastern European women to British men who are unhappy with the homegrown selection, advertises in everything from *Private Eye* to *The Sunday Times*. Libby Babbage, a Czech married to an Englishman, started the agency when she found how many of her girlfriends envied her catch. Czech mothers, worried that daughters who join the agency's books are being sold into prostitution, can contact Mrs Babbage's mother in Prague for advice on how English men shape up, and what it might be like to have your daughter living abroad.

> "The only culture shock she had here was asking where the maid was"

"Czech women like English men," says Mrs Babbage, "but travel restrictions made marrying them difficult until the border opened in 1989. We have 2,500 women on our books, professional, aged between 18 and 40. All speak English."

Why don't they just marry one of the guys at their office?

"Czech men haven't really kept up with the times. Czech girls are now all very chic. Czech men still slob around in jeans. They don't wash. They are also domineering. And they drink a lot. They're not a very attractive bunch, all in all, except for my father."

Financial security is presumably also an incentive for many women. Of the 100 men on Czechmate's restricted membership list — another 150 are waiting to join — four-fifths are older than 35, and all are professional and well-off. All must visit Czechmate's office in Luton for Mrs Babbage's approval.

The annual £475 fee gives unlimited introductions from the agency's video. "Men, being generally greedy, pick about 50 to start off with," Mrs Babbage says, "and, then start writing to them." The business has only really taken off in the last couple of years, but it has already brokered 150 marriages that Mrs Babbage knows of, "with three more coming up in April".

Here is some more news for her. "Peter", a 37-year-old East Anglian who found the local girls in their thirties were either already happily married or already unhappily divorced, met "Monika", a 24-year-old Czech fashion designer, last summer through Czechmate. They will marry in June. Was Monika a pushover, hungry to escape? "You must be joking. Most of the families I met when I went over last year have a little country house. They're not all stinking rich, but all are well-off, all have a car. One girl's father was a senior diplomat. They're as choosy about the men as the men are about them. If you tried anything on, you'd find that their families would get nasty."

Russian Partners, which set up in North Cheam, Surrey, less than a year ago, has around a hundred men on its books, half of whom are fast-forwarding through its video choice of 3,500 women. The rest have taken the plunge with a Russian and are still deciding if the water suits them. Five new wife-hunters join the register each week, according to Philip Burchill, who runs the agency whenever its Russian owner, Irina Lazenby, is in Moscow scouting for fresh supplies.

Mr Burchill, who can arrange trips to Moscow to test-run three or four ladies who look promising on videotape, reckons that "business has really taken off in the last three months". Why the swelling demand? "UK agencies offer a much smaller selection of women, particularly younger ones. Also, the women on our books are more orientated towards getting married and starting families."

Ah yes, the famously willing foreign bride, even more famous in the Far East. Charles Black, 65, who runs Siam Introductions from his terrace house in Chislehurst, Kent, is not shy of boasting that his much younger Thai wife, Deer, is mindful of his comfort.

After seven years of marriage — Mr Black was a guinea pig for his business — Deer still cannot read or write English properly, but her devotion is fluent. Mr Black says she worships the ground he stands on, hardly lets him lift a finger around the house, raises their three children, and insists on hauling heavy boxes from the supermarket.

But Mr Black's paradise is pricey: £3,000 for the full service, which includes flight and hotel in Bangkok to seal the affair with a kiss and possibly marriage. The oldest suitor Mr Black took on was 84, although the 1,600 women range from 18 to 35.

Press PLAY on your video remote control and his girls from Siam parade for you in your living-room, posing in their Sunday best in front of a fake potted palm and pouting while a voiceover chants catwalk statistics: Tan is 25 years old, 4ft 11in tall, has an elementary education and sells clothes; Kas, 31, 5ft 2in, high-school education, weaver; Dal, 26, 5ft 2in, high-school education, clerk. All of them are apparently reluctant to tie the knot with a fellow Thai. "The Thai man", Mr Black hints darkly, "doesn't make a good husband."

It all sounds very love-for-sale. But just when you have painted an image in your mind of an overweight, over-the-hill man being paired with a poor Asian woman desperate to flee poverty for a life in England, the facts can make you think twice. It was through Siam Introductions that Stephen met Kol, who is turning out to be far from tame. "My wife is more of a powerhouse than me," he says, rather proudly. "I've had a difficult job convincing her to marry me."



Russian Partners has 3,500 women on its books and 100 men: five new wife-hunters join every week

By the tortured, computer logic of the bank loan business, your credit rating improves if you're unemployed — while company directors need not apply

Want a loan? Lose your job

WOULD you get a loan? The moneylender's mind is a mysterious thing, and the mind of a moneylender's computer even more so. As you can see from the computerised credit score-card reproduced below, and ostensibly leaked by a disgruntled Barclays bank employee, an unemployed clerk is more likely to get a loan than a non-executive director of Safeway. It helps to be over 55 and to own a telephone, but company directors are regarded as risky. Oddest of all, those employed by the Government and those who have no job at all each get top marks for creditworthiness. To a banker wishing to be sure of getting a small loan repaid the two categories are, it appears, interchangeable.

This is not as illogical as it sounds, according to Sue Quashie, who runs a money advice centre for the Westbourne Park Baptist Church in west London. If a lender needs to enforce a repayment order made by the courts against a defaulting borrower it is possible to get an "attachment" on the borrower's earnings or, if there are none, on certain state benefits. These sums are deducted at source. In these circumstances the DSS is probably a safer bet than a private sector employer who may sack the debtor when he finds out about the court judgment. Government employees and the unemployed are, in a sense, the same thing.

Barclays yesterday confirmed that the score-card was a genuine example of one used by Mercantile, a Barclays subsidiary "over a year ago" for a mail-order personal loan. A year is a long time in banking. "It's terribly old," said the spokesman. "Our techniques have got much more sophisticated." Apparently so, since Barclays announced last week a 40 per cent reduction in bad debt provisions for personal and small corporate loans.


MARGOT NORMAN

Sophisticated or no, what is the rationale for the apparently arbitrary scoring system at which the puzzled public has fortuitously been given a peek? Barclays won't answer in detail for fear of encouraging fraud, but insists that the various score-cards devised by lenders — for mortgages, credit cards, loans to students — are based solely on statistical analysis of what works.

Scores and categories are constantly revised in the light of experience: a sudden rash of defaulters among, say, 40 year-old clerical working home-owners with fax machines in the insurance industry would be reflected in new scoring systems. Bad luck if that rules you out.

It doesn't matter to a moneylender whether the over-55s are more likely to repay their debts because older people tend to be more honourable in these matters or because they have paid off most of the mortgage by then; it only matters that experience has shown them to be reliable. That outweighs their being in the most likely age-group to lose their jobs. It doesn't help a respectable 35 year-old company director to know that "company director of no fixed address" is a familiar category of miscreant in the magistrates' courts. It doesn't help a steadily employed tenant with no overheads except the rent to know that his heavily over-committed owner-occupier neighbour is more likely to get a loan simply because, if things go wrong, the bank can take a charge on the property. And it doesn't help any solvent individual who has been refused an urgent loan to know that, from next year, all lenders have agreed to provide an explanation. (Barclaycard, incidentally, already do this.)

Sometimes creditworthiness is not the only issue for the lender. For example, a young woman whose bank had granted her a £4,000 loan to buy a car without batting an eyelid in 1988, when she was only 18, was surprised to be turned down for a similar request last year, on a much higher salary. Even a letter from her employer guaranteeing both salary and tenure for the period of the loan didn't do the trick. The bank said her creditworthiness was fine but she wanted to repay the loan too quickly. In short, they wouldn't be making enough money out of her.

The score-card reprinted here is a pretty blunt instrument, as can be inferred from the fact that it has been replaced. What goes into these cards is purely a matter for the lender's commercial judgment, faulty or not, and is not under the banking ombudsman's jurisdiction. Credit scoring is, however, endorsed by the Office of Fair Trading and the Consumers' Association as an increasingly fair and reliable technique for ensuring against fraudulent borrowers who put up the cost of loans to everyone else.

Sue Quashie still thinks lenders are too careless, and too keen to throw loans at people. She also thinks the best investment for lenders would be to fund a network of money advice centres, as recommended by the Ezra report. "People are not so much feckless as ignorant about budgeting. If you teach them, they often manage to repay," she says. After all, the great majority only get into difficulties when the circumstances honestly declared on their score-cards suddenly change.

THE MONEYLENDER'S SCORE-CARD

How many points would you score?

Residence status	
Owner	9
Tenant	3
Parents etc	0
Unspecified	3
Loan amount (£)	
0-500	30
501-1,000	26
1,001-1,500	22
1,501-2,500	16
2,501-7,500	0
7,501-9,999	-20
Unspecified	0
Recommendation from?	
Building society	43 or 33 varying
Time with employers	
Less than 8 years	14
8-15.5	18
Over 16	26
Unspecified	14
Home phone?	
Yes	21
Court judgments	
0	22
1	-21
2	-41
3	-62
Occupation	
Unknown	11
Director	11
Senior manager	31
Junior manager	22
Skilled	19
Unskilled	14
Military	31
Semi-skilled	16
Clerical	22
Unemployed	11
Age	
Under 24	10
24-28	26
29-32	34
33-35	39
36-42	40
43-45	42
46-49	50
50-54	53
Over 55	56
Unspecified	32
Employer	
Government	27
Private business	18
Self-employed	10
Part time	19
Military	18
Unemployed	27
Unknown	20
Time with bank	
Less than 1 yr 6m	0
1 yr 7m-4yr 6m	8
4 yr 7m-6yr 6m	30
6 yr 7m-10yr 6m	34
10 yr 7m-15yr 6m	36
Over 15yr 7m	40
No bank account	0
Unspecified	20
Bank account	
Current	15
Deposit and savings	4
Deposit only	4
Savings only	4
No response	2
Cards held	
Barclaycard	14
Visa	14
Access	14
Reason for loan	
Debt consolidation	0
All others	20
Your score	
224 and above	Accept
202-223	See bank manager
201 and below	Decline

Sources: Barclays/Mercantile Credit

3 NIGHTS £83

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3 NIGHTS £92-£119

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3 NIGHTS £129

Forte Posthouse, Aylesbury. Forte Posthouse, Bexley. Forte Posthouse,* Brentwood. Forte Posthouse, Carlisle. The George,† Crawley. Forte Posthouse, Croydon. Forte Posthouse, Eastleigh. Forte Posthouse, Fareham. Forte Crest, Glasgow Airport. The Green Man Hotel,† Harlow. Forte Posthouse,* Haydock. Forte Posthouse, High Wycombe. Forte Posthouse, Maidstone/Sevenoaks. The Chequers,† Newbury. Forte Posthouse, Northampton/Rugby. Forte Posthouse,* Peterborough. Forte Posthouse,* Reading. Forte Posthouse,* South Mimms. Forte Posthouse, Stevenage. Forte Posthouse, Taunton.

3 NIGHTS £135-162

The Beverley Arms,† Beverley. Forte Crest,* Brighouse. St. Vincent Rocks Hotel,† Bristol. Forte Crest,* Exeter. Forte Crest,* Gatwick Airport. Forte Crest,* Guildford. Forte Crest, Heathrow. The Duke's Head,† King's Lynn. Forte Crest Bloomsbury, London. Forte Crest,* Milton Keynes. The Grand Atlantic,† Weston-super-Mare.

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THE TIMES



FOUR FREE JAZZ CDs

Starting today and continuing over the next four weeks, *The Times*, in association with Original Jazz Classics, is offering readers the opportunity to collect four free CDs of great jazz music. The four recordings cover four areas of jazz music - great jazz groups, saxophonists, pianists and guitarists - and form a jazz library anyone would be proud to own.

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THE TIMES GREAT JAZZ COLLECTION TOKEN

Overcoming excessive monthly blood loss .... over-the-counter treatment for indigestion .... hamburger link to cancer

Relief for heavy periods



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

ONE in 20 women will consult their doctor this year complaining of menorrhagia — the medical term for heavy bleeding with periods. Menorrhagia is defined as the loss of more than 80ml of blood, equivalent to four-fifths of a wine bottle, with each cycle.

In many cases there is an obvious cause for the bleeding, for instance fibroids, polyps, malignant tumours or a diagnosable hormonal imbalance; but in other cases there is no definable disease, and the patient is ovulating normally. These women, who are also described as suffering from dysfunctional uterine bleeding, are often treated with the progestogen norethisterone, and more than 200,000 prescriptions for this drug are issued annually.

A report in the medical journal *Doctor* suggests that patients and doctors may be wasting their time and NHS money if they keep to the recommended treatment of 5mg twice a day from day 19 to day 26 in each cycle.

A research project at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital studied the blood loss of 57 women who had menorrhagia but were ovulating and had no uterine disease. The severity of their symptoms was carefully assessed, whereas in earlier and larger trials women tended to be asked for a subjective opinion of their condition. The assessment was carried out by collecting and measuring the quantity of haemoglobin (the blood pigment) lost. The women were randomly selected to be treated either with the hormone norethisterone or tranexamic acid, Cyklokapron, an anti-fibrinolytic agent which alters the clotting mechanism and reduces haemorrhage.

When the progestogen was prescribed in the standard dose, and for the usual week in the cycle, it failed to reduce the bleeding and actually increased it. In the two months of the study, the average blood loss of 173ml a cycle increased to 208ml. Conversely, those who took Cyklokapron had their blood loss reduced by 45 per cent to 97ml.

Dr Jane Preston, the senior registrar in gynaecology at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, said the trial of norethisterone had only tested the hormone at the recommended dose: other work from Australia had suggested that when given for a much longer time in each period, and at a higher dose, the results were improved. She added: "The trial shows that the usually recommended dose of norethisterone is not an effective treatment for menorrhagia. Other preparations are much more efficient. It also demonstrates how long-suffering some women can be over period problems, for few realised how much blood they were losing and God knows what they have had to put up with."

The acid test



IN ANY six months, 38 per cent of the population of Britain will suffer from indigestion; 13 million of these incidents will involve heartburn or excess acidity. In the battle against indigestion, the drugs introduced over the past 18 years, including H2-blockers, are, in comparison with the older remedies, what the AK-47 is to the Lee Enfield rifle.

Although one in 20 consultations with a doctor is about indigestion, the overwhelming majority of sufferers don't consult their GP but buy a remedy from their chemist. In the past, pharmacists were allowed to sell only the older remedies, mainly antacids, without a doctor's prescription, but from April they will be able to offer patients an H2-blocker, Tagamet, over the counter and without a prescription.

Tagamet (cimetidine) is a remarkably safe drug which is already being taken by more than 72 million people worldwide. It reduces excess acid in the stomach rather than, as with antacids, neutralising it, and thereby provides relief for up to six hours. Tagamet is particularly effective against nocturnal heartburn.

Doctors have feared that Tagamet is such a powerful weapon against indigestion that, if used indiscriminately, it might mask the early symptoms of cancer, or perhaps persuade patients to neglect ulcers. In Denmark, where it has been available over the counter for five years, there has been no detectable increase in any delay in diagnosing cancer, or in the complications of ulcers.

Deadly meat



THE safety of hamburgers — like those given by John Selwyn Gummer to his daughter — have now been attacked on grounds other than the possibility that they might carry the infective agent BSE (bovine spongiform encephalitis) or "mad cow disease".

Medical magazine *Pulse* reports that the March edition of the journal *Cancer, Causes and Control*, has published details of American research which claims that in a study of 234 children with cancer, the youngsters had twice the risk of developing leukaemia if they ate hamburgers more than once a week.

Selwyn Gummer is not the only father who might unknowingly have risked his children's health. For a considerable time in his early childhood one of my sons, now reasonably fit and in his 30s, lived off vitamin pills, biscuits and what he called "pink meat", different varieties of processed meats.

The same American research shows that either processed meats, or hotdogs, taken weekly by the children, or their mothers when pregnant, doubled the risk of early brain tumours. The authors attribute the increased hazards of developing a malignancy associated with processed meats to the quantity of nitrites and nitrosamines contained in them.

Parents who have children with a determined and inexplicable love of hotdogs and tinned meat should not panic, though. Further, much more extensive research will be needed before the safety or otherwise of these foods can be fully established.

However, judging by the incubation period of diseases similar to BSE, the result of Selwyn Gummer's gamble may not be known for a decade or two, when the registrar general's mortality tables will provide the definitive answer.

Do fridges lower fertility?

Kate Muir on the role of everyday chemicals on male genes

Pollutants and pesticides which mimic the body's hormones are being implicated in a huge rise in infertility among men. Heavy exposure to pollutants is being blamed for playing havoc with the male and female genes of babies in the womb.

Many chemicals used in everyday goods, such as PCBs in the coolants of older fridges, various pesticides and fertilisers, polycarbonate plastic used for some bottles and jugs, and even some chlorine compounds are similar in make-up to the human sex hormone oestrogen. Because their molecular structure is close to oestrogen, they fit like a jigsaw piece into the body's receptors, and the body turns off its own production of the hormone.

Richard Sharpe of the Medical Research Council's Centre for Reproductive Biology in Edinburgh, and Niels Skakkebaek, a Danish endocrinologist, proposed at a recent conference in Washington that oestrogen-mimicking pollutants may underlie disturbing trends in male reproduction, including a sharp drop in sperm counts, and an increase in testicular cancer.

Oestrogen, although produced by both men and women, is the female sex hormone and its imitators are all around us in the soil, as some sprays on vegetables and fruit, and often in the air itself. (This compounds the recent report on fears that chemical hormones from the contraceptive pill were affecting male fertility by entering the water supply.)

In his own country, Mr Skakkebaek said, the incidence of testicular cancer has tripled over the past 50 years, and statistics show similar patterns in Britain, America and the rest of Scandinavia: "The frightening thing is the rate of increase continues to grow."

By combining data from different industrialised countries on sperm production, the Danish researchers at the Department of Growth and Reproduction were able to study the results of tests on 14,947 men, which show sperm count has almost halved in the past 50 years — from 113 million per ml in 1940 to 66 million per ml in 1990. The volume of semen has also dropped by about one fifth.

So far, research is more about links than facts

The incidence of undescended testicles in new-born boys has also doubled since the 1950s, to nearly 3 per cent. Although some descend within the first year or so, the undescended testicles remain infertile. No one is entirely sure yet whether these trends are related, but it is possible that low sperm count and testicular problems are caused as the baby boy is developing in the womb while the mother is exposed to certain chemicals.

An American study shows that women given a powerful synthetic oestrogen during pregnancy gave birth to children who later had testicular or fertility problems. The magazine *Environmental Health Perspectives* has put out a list of 45 chemicals and products which cause hormonal changes. These include certain herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, toxic by-products and some commercial chemicals.

Many of the products containing such chemicals were around in the 1960s and 1970s, and many of the most dangerous, such as PCBs and the pesticide DDT, are banned or at least carefully monitored. The problem now is spotting the dangers in small doses which may build up to a cumulative risk.

So far, research is more about probable links than facts. Mr Sharpe has begun a full research project into what causes male development, and this will include an investigation of any hormone-mimicking chemicals which interfere with that.

Battle for bacon and eggs

BARRY LEWIS



Tucking into a hearty British breakfast: many of those forced onto a low-fat diet or to take cholesterol-lowering drugs report a loss of their usual sense of wellbeing

The role of blood cholesterol in heart disease is still hotly disputed. **Dr James Le Fanu** reports on evidence that supports the sceptics

On his travels "to Several Remote Nations of the World", Gulliver encountered the "big enders" and the "little enders", two peoples waging war over the question as to the best end from which to extract the yolk of an egg. They could as easily have been fighting the long running battle over whether the role of cholesterol in heart disease is absolutely crucial or profoundly trivial.

Last month the big enders, under the generalship of Nicholas Wald, Professor of Epidemiology at St Bartholomew's Hospital, launched another major statistical offensive. They confirmed, by combining many different studies, that a high blood cholesterol is associated with increased risk of a heart attack and went on to claim, more contentiously, that reducing it by as little as 10 per cent, could reduce the risk of a coronary by a quarter.

The return fire from the little enders has been to ask why, if cholesterol is so important, heart disease has declined so rapidly in Britain in the last 10 years with hardly any measurable change in the amount of fat we eat.

Statistics are one thing but real life is another. It would appeal to Jonathan Swift's satirical sensibility to learn how a couple of octogenarians, accidentally caught in the crossfire of the cholesterol war, could influence its final outcome.

The first is an 88-year-old man living in a retirement home in America who for 15 years or more has been eating 20 to 30 eggs a day. According to the nurse attached to the home he takes delivery of two dozen eggs a day which he always eats soft boiled. He keeps a careful record, egg by egg, of his intake, which must be compulsive. Dr Fred Kern of the University of Colorado School of Medicine has taken an interest in his case because, despite a cholesterol intake 40 times greater than that recommended for a "healthy diet", his blood cholesterol level is normal and he has no clinical evidence of atherosclerosis. How does he do it?

Might changes in diet increase the risk of suicide?

Dr Kern uncovered three main mechanisms. First, his gut has adapted by absorbing only a fraction of the cholesterol content of the eggs and excreting 80 per cent. Second, his liver metabolism has reduced the amount of cholesterol it synthesises. Third, the volume of bile — which contains cholesterol — travelling down the bile ducts is much greater than normal.

This octogenarian's highly efficient methods of disposing of the excess cholesterol from his two-dozen-eggs-a-day habit means that the actual amount of cholesterol circulating in his blood is no different from that of someone on a low fat and low cholesterol diet.

This in turn reflects a vital nutritional truth which is too often ignored: attempts to influence physiological variables, such as cholesterol level or blood pressure, by changing diet are extremely difficult as there are so many adaptive homeostatic mechanisms conspiring to maintain them in a steady state. Indeed it must be so, for man could not survive for long if minor environmental changes like what and how much he eats every day readily perturbed the *milieu intérieur*.

The second case is that of an 86-year-old woman whose unusual Christmas present this year from her family was a visit to a private hospital for a cardiovascular risk assessment. This included measuring her cholesterol, which turned out to be 7.3. She was accordingly advised to reduce the amount of fat in her diet — which usually means cutting out eggs and bacon for breakfast, only eating low-fat cheeses and drinking skimmed milk. Her GP, Dr John Justice, commented in the *British Medical Journal* recently: "This would not have lengthened her life, but would certainly have made it more miserable. She was greatly relieved to be told to eat what she liked."

There are two interesting aspects to this story. Blood cholesterol levels rise with age, so though 7.3 might be on the high side for people in their 40s, it is optimal for those over the age of 70, anything lower being associated with an increased risk of strokes and cancer. Clearly the medical advice given to this woman was not only ludicrous but potentially harmful.

Further, if she had followed the advice given, her life, as Dr Justice observes, would have been made more miserable. No doubt it must be a bit depressing to be bullied into sacrificing the much loved pleasures of bacon and eggs for breakfast — but that is not all. Many of those forced onto a low-fat diet or to take cholesterol-lowering drugs report a loss of their usual sense of wellbeing.

Two years ago Dr Hyman Engelberg of the Californian Arteriosclerosis Research Foundation proposed in *The Lancet* that altering the blood cholesterol might have an effect on neurotransmitters in the brain, particularly in altering the physical shape of the receptors for serotonin, which influences the mental state. Dr Engelberg's hypothesis was, predictably, hotly disputed, but something like it is necessary to explain another disturbing aspect of the cholesterol controversy.

Drug treatment can effectively lower raised cholesterol levels in young and middle-aged men and women and modestly lower their risk of a subsequent heart attack. However, overall they do not benefit because their mortality rate from vehicle accidents, homicides and suicides is almost doubled. Or might blood cholesterol lowered with drugs alter the neurochemistry of the brain with adverse psychological consequences?

"When scientists disagree, the wise man reserves judgment." But in the war of words over the harm or otherwise of cholesterol, and the benefits or otherwise of reducing it, the experiences of these two octogenarians seems to lend support to sceptics.

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Why we don't need managers

BT is ringing in a new corporate order, writes **Charles Handy**

Does BT really need 32,000 managers to organise its 153,000 staff? Apparently not, if it is true that even the most senior of those managers have been urged to take advantage of their voluntary redundancy scheme. It is ironic that this news should have been released on the day of the Detroit jobs summit, where Britain was arguing forcefully for more flexibility as the cure for unemployment. Ironic, because while flexibility may open the door to those at the bottom and the edge of organisations, it closes the door on many a managerial career.

Flexibility in the workplace means more than unregulated wages, hours and contracts. It means flexible organisations, with work organised around shifting tasks and priorities, in groups and project teams and temporary assignments, mixing those inside with some from outside. Flexibility also means buying output not time. Instead of buying the time, often the lifelong time, of people and then arranging to use it productively, flexible organisations are buying the goods, services and specialist help from independents, be they independent self-employed, partnerships or other businesses. When they don't need, they don't buy. Even within the organisation, work is being arranged or "re-engineered" so that groups can be measured and paid on their output and left to get on with it in their own way.

> Managing will gradually cease to be job in itself

This new flexibility has two results: more people will be working outside the organisation than inside it, and we shall increasingly run our organisations without hosts of people called managers.

Already nearly 50 per cent of the available workforce is effectively outside the organisation. Of that workforce, 23 per cent is part-time or temporary, 12 per cent is self-employed, and about 12 per cent is self-employed but broke: the unemployed plus those who have given up trying.

There will be work in plenty out there when the recovery picks up speed, but for many it will come in the form of potential customers, not jobs. We should talk work not jobs, and customers not bosses, if we want to face up to the reality of the flexible workplace; and we need to prepare people now for that very different prospect.

Inside the organisation it is another story. The current formula for productivity is: half as many people inside, paid twice as well (because organisations keep the best half), producing three times as much added value. BT is going down that road, and like any other flexible organisation, it increasingly uses its people in a complicated network of interlocking groups and teams. I once jocularly described a typical British team as being like a rowing eight — eight people going backwards as fast as they could, without talking to each other, steered by the one person who couldn't row! I thought it rather witty at the time, but I was sternly rebuked by a former oarsman who said "How do you think that we could go backwards so fast without talking if we did not know each other very well and have complete trust in each other's competence? We do our talking and our training off the job."

I took his point, but went on to ask him who was the leader, or manager, of the eight. "It depends," he said. "It might be the cox who is in command on the river, but it could also be the stroke, who sets the pace and the standards. But then there is also the captain, who builds up our determination and resolve and self-discipline off the river, or even the coach, who directs and guides us." None of these is *the* leader, and none is called a manager.

So, increasingly, it is with work groups, particularly if they are small and relatively self-contained, as they can be these days thanks to technology. The leadership rotates according to the task to be done; if anyone is called a manager rather than team leader, co-ordinator or project director, it is the administration manager, whose task it is to be the permanent hub of each constellation. Like the rowing eight we shall have to get better at working without actually speaking to each other, because we won't be together much of the time. The talking, trusting and training will have to be done off the job.

The emerging flexible organisation is horizontal not vertical, a place where career ladders are short, if they exist at all. Pure managerial jobs will then be few and far between; with life inside busy but short, ending at 50 for most and leading on — if one is wise and well-prepared — to an independent "portfolio" outside. That portfolio will involve not organising the work of others, but doing the work oneself, as a specialist, an entrepreneur or a part-time helper. Management will be an increasingly important aspect of every job, but will gradually cease to be job in itself.

Flexibility is rightly touted as the key to both efficiency and effectiveness in a more competitive world, but it means more than was discussed in Detroit. It is socially dangerous. It will mean both higher and lower rates of pay, as we pay more for those who are vital and less for those who are marginal. If we want to secure the advantages of flexibility without the dangers of a divided society, we will need to take care to build up the skills of those outside the organisation. The organisations won't do it of their own accord to help people not their own; nor will it happen if left to the market, unless we can stimulate demand among those outsiders, pay for some of it, regulate the supply and, above all, make it fashionable. If a learning society means anything, it means this.

Charles Handy is the author of The Empty Raincoat *(Hutchinson, £12).*



GIANT EURO-BORE ON THE LOOSE

Britain won't stand it

Douglas Hurd must not compromise any more on democracy in Europe

Power, democracy, the future of the Conservative Party and the future constitution of Europe are the real issues behind Tuesday night's contest over votes in the Council of Europe. If Britain gives way next week, and agrees to just one more little compromise, Europe will be that much closer to the single federal state that the Maastricht Treaty promised, and that much farther from democracy. As Willy Claes, the Belgian foreign secretary, argues, "building Europe means transferring sovereignty to a higher European authority".

The difficulty arises, as do so many other uncomfortable European issues, because the European structure has been changed by Maastricht from an inter-governmental Common Market to a European Union, with common citizenship and common legislation over a wide area. Inter-governmental organisations do not have to be democratic. They are based on the relationship between separate nations which choose to associate for specific purposes.

Each nation naturally has a separate vote, whether it is big or small, though larger nations may have extra voting-power. The UN is the most important of inter-governmental bodies. In the General Assembly, each nation has a single vote, but there are only five permanent members of the Security Council. That is a fair arrangement for cooperation, but if nations want to go further and merge in a super-state, they must face the issue of democracy, which rests on the equality of one-person one-vote.

In the Council of Ministers of the European Union, each nation has a minimum of two votes; no nation, however large, has more than ten. That was appropriate to the inter-governmental body which the European Community still was when the present voting system was introduced 30 years ago. It is not appropriate to the primary legislative power of the Council of Ministers in the EU's post-Maastricht structure.

This gap between Council votes and national electorates was always wide and became even more exaggerated after Germany was reunited. The nations of the EU divide into four groups. The largest four — Germany, the United Kingdom, France and Italy — have a combined population of 252.9 million, but only 40 votes in the Council of Ministers. They have one vote for each 6.5 million of their population. After enlargement, they would still be a large majority in population, but would become an actual minority in terms of votes.

The middle five — Spain, The Netherlands, Portugal, Greece and Belgium — have a combined population of 84.4 million, and 29 votes. That is one vote for every 2.9 million people. The group of small countries — Denmark, Ireland and Luxembourg — has eight votes for just 9.1 million people, or one per 1.1 million. The proposed new members — Sweden, Austria, Finland and Norway — have a total population of 25.8 million, and would have 18 votes; that is one vote for every 1.4 million — only a little higher than for the small group. Obviously an arrangement that gives, as this does, 43 times as much weight to a Luxembourg vote as to a German vote is not democratic. It was acceptable for the co-operation of the Common Market, but destroys the democratic basis for the EU.

William Rees-Mogg

In order to avoid the majority being overridden by the minority, a qualified majority formula was introduced, which has allowed the nominal Council majority to be blocked by 23 votes out of 77. This week's argument has been about whether that blocking number should be raised to 27 votes out of the 90 votes that will exist when and if the new members join. If one looks simply at the votes, that may seem a reasonable proposition. It would keep the blocking vote at 30 per cent of the total. Yet it appears much less reasonable if one looks at the total populations, and at the underlying numbers of national electors. All the proposed new members are small states, and they will all therefore be over-represented in terms of population. If Britain had proportionately as many votes as the new members, we should have 40 votes instead of ten.

In practical terms, both the old and the new blocking majority require three states to achieve an overriding veto; but the new blocking majority would need three of the five largest. At present a blocking majority can, for instance, be formed by Germany, Britain and Denmark, which constitute about 41 per cent of the existing EU population. After enlargement, the three might be Germany, Britain and Spain, which constitute 48 per cent of the enlarged population. The figures differ according to how the blocking group is made up, but the principle is the same. The proposed revision is an anti-democratic proposal, quite apart from its effect of reducing the protection for individual national interests.

The issue of democracy was considered by the German constitutional court when it judged Dr Manfred Brunner's case against German ratification of the Maastricht Treaty. Its finding was that ratification was constitutional only subject to qualifications; it would be unconstitutional for Germany to join a non-democratic EU. The court also found that the democracy of the EU was based not on the European Parliament, but on the separate democratic electorates of the member nations. That national democracy has its expression through the structure of the Council of Ministers. In so far as the Council fails to give democratic weight to the underlying democracies of the member nations, the whole European constitution is flawed.

If the German constitutional court is correct, the Council of Ministers must be seen as the sovereign democratic assembly of the EU, comparable to the American House of Representatives or to the House of Commons, rather than the Senate or the House of Lords. Yet the voting arrangements of the Council of Ministers are already undemocratic, and it is proposed that this democratic shortfall should actually be increased. The 119.3 million Europeans who belong to the 12 smaller countries would after enlargement be able to outvote the 252.9 million in the four largest countries by 50 votes to 40 on the Council of Ministers. That surely is wrong.

In terms of British constitutional history, this resembles the situation before 1832, when a handful of voters in a few rotten boroughs could outvote the largest cities in the country. Such an arrangement cannot be defended on grounds of democracy, and is inappropriate to the post-Maastricht powers of the EU. The German constitutional court requires democracy in the Council of Ministers to legitimise the EC under the German Basic Law. If 250 million Europeans can be outvoted by 120 million, that may be unconstitutional in terms of Germany's Basic Law.

There are three possible choices for Europe. The first is to accept that the EC is at present capable only of being a limited, co-operative inter-governmental body; that was the view of those of us who saw Maastricht as a fatal blunder, as a treaty too far. The second is to adopt, either in the Council of Ministers or the European Parliament, a fully democratic constitution, under which one vote in Luxembourg would have the same value as one vote in Germany, with all decisions depending on a genuine majority. The trouble with this proposal is that it would take away the privileges of the small powers, which they would resent; it would probably not win a referendum in any European state.

The third choice is the one that will probably be made. The EU will not accept the limitations of co-operation, nor the discipline of democracy. The Delors project, which sees Europe as a quasi-socialist, non-democratic authority on high will continue to be pushed ahead, stealthily, cumulatively and manipulatively. What must be made plain to our European partners is that in the end Britain will not accept that.

Maastricht has already split the Tory Party. When the Conservatives lose office, their leaders will no longer have the power of patronage to suppress the majority opinion of their party. If the party turns against the EU, British subordination to the Union is doomed, if not in the next Parliament, then in the next decade. The Tories will not support a non-democratic Union which operates as a high-tax bureaucracy and cannot deliver the goods.

At this stage a loose, free-trading EC is by far the best option. I would accept a fully democratic EU, with a constitution endorsed in referendums in every nation. That would be the will of the people. But the present and proposed non-democratic Union will not work, either for the Conservatives, or for Britain, or in terms of the German constitution, or for the future of Europe. It is M Delors's disastrous *folie de grandeur*.

Goodbye to Herr Kohl?

Roger Boyes sees potential havoc in German politics

Chancellor Kohl is beginning to acquire the aura of a loser. His Christian Democrats are reeling from defeats in state elections and his popularity is at an all-time low. Even business leaders say they prefer his Social Democratic rival Rudolf Scharping. Nor does it inspire confidence when the Chancellor's aides point to John Major as an example of a politician defying the polls.

Given how similar Herr Scharping's views are to those of Herr Kohl, it should not be difficult to bid farewell to the Chancellor. The two men have the same accent and the same baritone; as the prime minister of the Rhineland Palatinate, Herr Scharping sits at the same desk and uses the same telephone as his predecessor, Helmut Kohl. Only the Social Democratic beard and the trimmer waistline mark the difference. Herr Kohl's election slogan, strangely defensive, is: "Politics without a beard".

Yet there is a crucial distinction between the two men, and a pressing case for wanting to preserve the status quo. One of the leading options potentially available to Bonn power-brokers is an alliance between the Social Democrats (SPD) and the Greens: a so-called Red-Green coalition. Herr Scharping almost certainly does not want to rule with the Greens, but he has yet to say so publicly. This introduces uncertainty, even danger into the middle of Europe.

The election programme drawn up at the recent and characteristically chaotic Green party conference includes dissolving Nato, scrapping the German army and withdrawing from virtually all overseas military operations. The party wants to close all nuclear power stations in Germany in the next two years. It wants to add 20p immediately to the price of a litre of petrol and increase this steadily every year. The Greens also plan to abolish unemployment by introducing a 30-hour working week at full pay.

Some of the programme hits directly at British jobs: the Greens would drop nuclear recycling contracts with Thorp, and withdraw from the Eurofighter project. In short the party still operates as a protest group. As a governing party it would have huge potential for havoc.

For example, switching off Germany's 20 atomic power stations would create an energy gap that could only be plugged by building more coal-powered plants. More than 30 such power stations, with a capacity of 700 megawatts each, would have to be constructed to replace the nuclear plants. It takes six years to build a coal-powered plant. But the Greens have taken an anti-nuclear stance as an item of faith for so many years that they have ceased to think through the implications. It is a similar story with the 30-hour week: some 800,000 jobs would be lost in the first two years after implementation. Consumption would drop by up to 10 per cent a year, gross domestic product would fall by 6-8 per cent, tax revenue would plunge and pension provisions would be in a mess.

In power, the Greens would be a liability for the German economy and for Europe. Yet Herr Scharping has not distanced himself from the party or replied to its public offer of a Red-Green tandem. He does not do so because any such declaration would scare away the mainstream vote — knowing that he could pick up many votes from disillusioned Christian Democrats. That is too great a prize to put at risk by prematurely embracing the Greens.

One SPD school of thought sees a Red-Green government as a natural way of renewing the SPD's socialist heritage. The SPD, they argue, has lost its radicalism and verve. It can steal these traits from the Greens; like borrowed dentures, they may not fit very well but they will at least give some bite. The Red-Green government in Lower Saxony showed that a strong SPD personality — the state premier Gerhard Schröder — can box the Greens into a corner and run the show. In time, the more absurd elements of Green dogma can be dropped, and the Greens will come to heel.

It would be foolish, however, to underestimate the Greens. They have been learning how to fight cabinet battles and use the constitutional court to block critical legislation. Even if they discarded the wildest bits of their programme, they would herald a government bogged down in pointless internal debates. The new Europe needs a Germany that can respond quickly to international crises, a Germany capable of modernising itself and of moving away from dogma and over-regulation. Germany's neighbours have learnt to cope with the big new country. The qualities of Helmut Kohl that are most mocked — his stolid, predictable mien — have served his country well; nobody can doubt Germany's present commitment to France, to Eastern Europe, to the Atlantic alliance, to free trade. If he is levered out of power by a Red-Green coalition, such doubts would certainly begin to surface. Herr Scharping would do well to challenge the Greens now, to scotch any talk of a coalition, even if that restricts his options after October's elections.

Phantom of the opera

THE TIMES DIARY

The Covent Garden faithful can still look forward to Placido Domingo's four sell-out performances of *Carmen* in May, but they will be disappointed if they come back for an encore in July when the great Spanish tenor had been scheduled to star in two of the five performances of Puccini's *La fanciulla del West* at the Royal Opera House. Football, it seems, comes first.

Domingo had been expected to play the part of the bandit Dick Johnson at the ROH, opposite the statuesque Gwyneth Jones as Minnie. However, he has also been scheduled to give a concert in Los Angeles with his two tenor companions, Luciano Pavarotti and José Carreras, to mark the climax of the World Cup. The three tenors will be packing the Dodger Stadium on July 16, the eve of the World Cup final and slap in the middle of final rehearsals at Covent Garden.

John Griffin, New-York based spokesman for the World Cup Organising Committee, is adamant about Domingo's World Cup priorities. "It was such a huge success when the three tenors sung in Italy for World Cup 1990 and, in effect, it's a kind of reunion, because it's the first time that they've sung together since then."

By contrast, the Royal Opera is understandably rather touchy about the whole mix-up. "It became rather impossible with rehearsals and everything. Placido just has a very hectic timetable," sniffs a spokesman. "But Nicola Martinucci is now doing all five dates, which is equally wonderful."

● *The BBC's new public relations supremo Colin Browne is clearly taking no chances in the wake of last year's brouhaha surrounding John Birt's tax affairs. He has chosen to start on April 5, the first day of the new tax year.*

Labour of love

NOT SO much a case of ten Lords a-leaping as 30 peers a-posing in the House of Lords today, as socialist members of the Upper House seek to lay the lie that Labour has no experience of government.

The chief whip, Lord Graham of Edmonton, has summoned every Labour peer who has served as a government minister to a photo-call. The photograph, he says, will be good for morale and will provide a record for posterity. "This is for old time's sake," says Graham. "Remember, some of these people are not as active as they were. But old soldiers never die: they go to the House of Lords."

True enough — the ermined assembly will include the likes of Lord Houghton, 95, and Lord Listowel, 87, first appointed as a Whip in the 1941 wartime coalition. Others expected for the historic line include Lords Callaghan, Wilson, Longford, Shackleton, Cledwyn, and the Baronesses Birk, David and Llewelyn-Davies.

Lord Healey, a mere freshman at 76 and no mean snapper himself, recommended the photographer John Londai for the task following his impressive picture of GLC employees on their last day. "Basically it's the cloofs," he says. "That's clapped-out old fogies."

Ryan's glory

PRINCESS MARGARET'S holiday companion Ned Ryan is finally reaping the benefits of his erstwhile career as a stallholder among the antique traders of Portobello Road. The genial Irishman, who was once sacked from his job as a London bus conductor, has been appointed to the charity gala committee of the Grosvenor House Antiques Fair.

Ryan declines to discuss the appointment, but his noted friendship with Princess Margaret began more than 20 years ago at a dinner party, when the Princess expressed interest in the artefacts he sold on his stall. Within weeks, Ryan was accompanying her on early morning visits to Bermondsey market. "He's got the connections and he knows enough about antiques," explains a fellow committee member. A pity then, that Princess Margaret will not attend the fair's gala preview. Guest of Honour is the Princess Royal.

● *After attracting an eclectic if exhausting mix of the Hollywood great and the British good to his exhibition at Hampstead's Catto Gallery, the magnificently coiffured Tony Curtis is looking forward to capturing the relative peace of London's parks. "I take my sketchpad everywhere," he confides. "I draw something nearly every day. I'm sure I'll be sketching Hyde Park whilst I'm here."*



Holiday tales

CHANNEL Four's spring schedule announced this week caters admirably for minority audiences with a variety of documentaries, including the no doubt riveting story of a men's urinal and a distinctly post-watershed offering entitled *Lesbians Unclothed*. But one series above all has raised eyebrows at the station's Charlotte Street headquarters. Its subject? British expatriate life in France.

Employees have not been slow to make a connection between *A French Affair* (billed as everything that the BBC's disastrous *A Year in Provence* was not) and the holiday habits of commissioning editors at Channel 4. No fewer than four of them, including John Willis (director of programmes), David Lloyd (senior commissioning editor of news and current affairs), Peter Moore (head of documentaries) and Waldemar Januszczak (commisioning editor arts) have holiday homes in France.

None will be drawn, however, on the influence this might have made on their editorial decisions. "But there have been one or two al-fresco budget meetings," admits one of the quartet — anonymously.

● *Yah, boo, sucks . . . John Patten, the Education Secretary, is hitting back at Ann Taylor's slur that he doesn't know how many centimetres there are in ten inches. As readers of yesterday's Diary will recall, the Opposition spokesman pointed out that it is 25.4cm, not 24.5cm as Patten's latest departmental advertising campaign shows. Patten is stung: "The Labour Party is not very astute where measurements are concerned," he protests. "It is not a literal ruler divided into inches and centimetres. Had it been, the boy in the picture would have been less than five inches tall."*

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THURSDAY MARCH 17 1994

Goodbye to Herr Kohl?

Roger Boyes sees potential havoc in German politics

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TIMES PAST — THE TIMES — FUTURE

PRIVATE FUNCTIONS

A means for Clarke to prove his radicalism

Many fine words have issued from Treasury ministers in recent weeks about help for private companies to put money into public-sector projects. Both Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Stephen Dorrell, the Financial Secretary, profess to be keen to overcome the old Treasury hostility to these schemes. But as soon as their intentions are put to the test, they are found wanting. Soon the old question of the 1960s and 1970s will be disinterred: who runs Whitehall, ministers or civil servants?

The latest Treasury attempt to stymie the private finance initiative concerns the London Underground. The newest Northern Line train is a clanking 34 years old. Known as the Misery Line to its reluctant users, it is a disgrace to the city and desperately needs investment. A private company, ABB Transportation, has offered to build, maintain and operate about 100 new trains for £440 million under a leasing arrangement. The Treasury has rejected the offer on the ground that the deal could be financed more cheaply by the Government. But it has not been financed by the Government, and it will not be in the foreseeable future.

Mr Clarke and Mr Dorrell do not regularly use the London Underground, least of all its most miserable line. But they cannot be blind to the economic and social costs of having an inadequate public transport system in a capital city; nor of the environmental costs from forcing commuters on to congested and polluted roads. The Government's own private finance panel has now publicly called on the Treasury to reconsider its decision.

The Northern Line is but one small example of sorely needed infrastructure investment. The ideas are there, the money is there, and the private sector needs merely to be given the nod. Yet, even after 14 years of Conservative rule, the Treasury still clings to the doctrine of "public sector good, private sector bad". Officials are convinced that private companies can make profits on public-sector projects only by taking the taxpayer for a ride. They still refuse to believe, despite all the evidence from privatisation, that the private sector can often build something more cheaply than the public sector even when profits have been taken into account.

The other fixed Treasury dogma is that all borrowing by public-sector companies must be included in the public-sector borrowing requirement; even though the Maastricht criteria for economic convergence, against which the Treasury measures Britain's performance, exclude such borrowing, as do most other European countries. Mysteriously, British Nuclear Fuels has managed to escape the PSBR borrowing straitjacket. Yet others, such as the Post Office and London Underground, cannot. If British Telecom were still nationalised, it would never have been allowed to invest the £2.5 billion it has earmarked for this year.

Treasury officials must hope that both political parties' enthusiasm for private finance will eventually wane if enough obstacles are put in its way. Today's favourite hurdle is the sharing of risk. If government has to take any risks on a project, they argue, it might as well undertake the project itself. Yet the projects are not being undertaken. And it is quite possible to devise a contract in which private companies take risks that they can control, such as cost over-runs and delays, while government shoulders risks such as legislation and ministerial changes of mind.

The Treasury has always been the most dogmatic of government departments. Yet Mr Clarke considers himself the most robust of government ministers. If he cannot break this logjam, he does not deserve to retain that reputation. The Chancellor must back the private finance panel in all its tussles with the Treasury and give notice to officials that their entrenched interests will receive no more generous treatment from him than those of ambulance drivers, doctors and teachers have done in the past.

STATE OF THE UNIONISTS

Molyneaux's options after the Anglo-Irish peace initiative

In the three months since the Anglo-Irish declaration, most Unionist politicians have confounded expectation by remaining silent. Sinn Fein held court in America; the Irish government pronounced on the future of the Union; but the Union's natural custodians kept their own counsel to see what would come of John Major's initiative. On balance, that was probably a judicious tactic: moderate Unionists could not afford to be seen as the instinctive obstructors of the peace process. Now that process appears to have failed, the time has come to seek fresh tactics.

For a party better known for inertia than dynamism, the Official Unionists have developed a potentially fruitful policy agenda in recent years. While others have pursued the futile task of wooing the IRA, the party's leader, James Molyneaux, has quietly pressed the case for devolution and the development of a mature political culture in the North. An Ulster administrative assembly of about 80 members will be in place as soon as the nationalist SDLP drops its objections. This should be a first step towards further decentralisation of power to district councils and the integration of Ulster policy into the ordinary legislative process. Mr Molyneaux and his colleagues deserve credit for their persistence in this area.

The Unionists also have a key contribution to make on the security issue. After close consultations with the Royal Ulster Constabulary, David Trimble, MP for Upper Bann, is seeking to make a series of changes to the Criminal Justice Bill when it reaches report stage next month. He hopes to enable wire tap evidence to be admissible in court and to restrict further the right to silence in cases involving terrorist offences.

Because of their obvious implications for civil liberties, such proposals are bound to be contentious. But they deserve a proper hearing so that MPs can compare policy in this country with the methods that have been used against organised crime and terrorism in countries such as Italy and Germany. By keeping a determinedly low profile, the Unionists risk losing by default. If they decline to fill the vacuum left by the Government since it relegated the declaration from peace plan to "permanency", Sinn Fein is sure to do so.

This is partly a matter of co-ordination and presentation. Unionist initiatives need better-organised publicity if they are to influence the debate outside the province. More could be done to mobilise active support for the Union among Tory backbenchers — particularly the 1992 intake, many of whom strongly support its survival. But it also a question of political strategy. Mr Molyneaux's decision to stand loyally by the Prime Minister seems to reflect a fear that the other candidates for the Conservative leadership would be still less sympathetic to the Union. Some Unionists even believe that the party would be better off supporting Labour. Yet both hypotheses need to be tested, and tested publicly.

In spite of the Government's parliamentary weakness, ministers are under no real pressure to explain their respective visions for Ulster or to break ranks on the subject. Instead, they have been able to take refuge in the platitudinous party line that Britain has no "selfish" or "strategic" interest in the province. Likewise, the most that Unionists can realistically expect from a Labour Government is that it will do nothing. Mr Molyneaux and his colleagues must realise that the mainland parties will not heed their demands unless they raise the stakes in public. They will be granted few better opportunities to do so.

SOME LIKE IT IN ACRYLIC

Art is a lake in which lambs can paddle and elephants swim

The one-man show of paintings by Tony Curtis opened in Hampstead yesterday. The star of *Some Like It Hot* paints as he acts, vividly and energetically. Some like him in acrylic enough to pay £10,000 for one of his paintings, and Mr Curtis reacts angrily to being described as a "celebrity artist", as though customers were patronising his Hollywood status rather than his art.

He protests too much. Anyone can claim to be an artist, and no one can prove him wrong. The proof of the painting lies in the market. And even the most professional artist started as an amateur. Claude Gellée went to Rome as an appropriately named pastry-cook before he found his genius for poetic landscapes and became known professionally as Claude Lorrain. Matisse was an attorney's clerk until he bought some colours and started copying. Gauguin was a stockbroker when he offered "View at Viroflay" to the Impressionist exhibition, and Henry "Douanier" Rousseau worked for the Paris municipal toll service before his naive fauviste paintings became the rage.

Before amateurism became an insult, it was the mark of a cultivated lady or gentleman to display artistic accomplishments. The Industrial Revolution made music and paint cheaper for all, and universal education brought the all-round culture of Renaissance man within reach of Everyman, at any rate in theory. But the modern world also hardened the distinction between amateur and professional in the arts.

Today the arts world is taken to mean professional artists and arts administrators. And yet the submerged mass of artistic activity is amateur in the old sense. Many amateurs regularly have their work accepted for the Royal Academy's Summer Exhibition. Some even have it reproduced on stamps. The Society of Amateur Artists has 7,000 members and is mounting an exhibition of 800 amateur paintings in London in May.

Evening classes and art centres offer a range of "art" from poetry to painting, and from origami to country dancing. More Britons attend amateur dramatic performances in a year than the annual audience at all West End theatres. Six million amateurs in the United Kingdom are actively engaged in arts of all kinds rather than sitting as spectators. Art is too humane an activity to be reserved as the monopoly of professionals, and too slippery to be so confined. Perhaps, with the popularity of camcorder and karaoke, amateurs may soon storm the exorbitant and often inartistic professional citadels of the cinema.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Telling the truth in Parliament

From Mr Peter W. Duncanson

Sir, Lord Callaghan's rejection of Mr William Waldegrave's claim that he misled the Commons during the 1967 sterling crisis is supported in Richard Crossman's diaries, where he records that on Thursday, November 16, 1967, at a Cabinet meeting he "turned to Callaghan and said, 'Well, if necessary, will you be able to deny that devaluation is taking place?' 'Yes, if necessary', he replied, 'I should certainly have to'."

However, Crossman continues, when the time came in the Commons to reply to a question on devaluation rumours, Callaghan said: "I did not start the rumours and do not propose to comment on them." The Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, had apparently agreed that Callaghan should not be required to make a denial to the Commons.

"Harold's softness probably lost us £200 million that day. It certainly precipitated the appalling sterling crisis," states Crossman, having already commented that "this kind of softness is pretty expensive. I must say that if you ask soldiers to die in battle the politicians should be prepared to die politically in battle".

Clearly Richard Crossman did not see lying to Parliament as being a routine event, but one that, if indulged in, even for praiseworthy reasons, means damage to, and a real possibility of an end to, a ministerial career.

This would seem to be a very wise approach.

Yours sincerely,
PETER DUNCANSON,
28 Barnfield Road,
Lisburn, Co Antrim.
March 11.

From Professor Kenneth Morgan, FBA

Sir, Robert Rhodes James ("Truth must be the norm", March 10) rightly upholds Lord Callaghan's total integrity during the devaluation crisis of November 1967. But it is not correct to state that the Chancellor's anodyne response to Stan Orme's question on November 16 caused a run on the pound and his subsequent resignation.

The damage was done by an earlier, disastrous question by another Labour member, Robert Sheldon, about loans negotiated with foreign banks, which would have left any Chancellor in an impossible position. Lord Callaghan had decided to resign after devaluation on November 18 in any event.

Anyone who reads the Treasury papers for October-November 1967, as I have, can only conclude that William Waldegrave's version of these events is a travesty. Lord Callaghan affirmed until the end of October 1967 that he did not aim to devalue, and that was indeed his view, restated to Treasury officials as late as November 10. It was only on November 14 that he became convinced that devaluation was inevitable; his answers in the House on November 16 were consistent with this.

No one has accused him of lying to the House until now. But Mr Waldegrave is as unconvincing a contemporary historian as he is a champion of open government.

Yours,
KENNETH MORGAN,
Plas Penglais, Aberystwyth, Dyfed.
March 10.

From Mrs G. M. Warr

Sir, Devaluation, preceded by its inevitable obfuscation, has always been a potential irritant to international relations. While my husband was serving as HM Ambassador to Nicaragua in the late 1960s a large sum of sterling lay on deposit in a bank in Managua, earmarked for the construction of a new embassy building.

On hearing on the BBC World Service of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's lack of precision in answer to a question about devaluation, my husband's suspicions that this was in fact the Government's policy were strengthened to the extent that he immediately converted the total sum into Nicaraguan córdobas.

When actual devaluation swiftly followed he had made an enemy of the bank manager, who believed he must have had inside information, but he had saved the British taxpayer a considerable sum of money.

Yours faithfully,
GILLIAN WARR,
48 Jubilee Place, SW3.
March 13.

From Mr Benjamin Tobin

Sir, It occurs to me to wonder whether Mr William Waldegrave and his parliamentary colleagues chose politics as alternatives to careers as estate agents.

Instead of being prevented by a heavy-handed law from saying what clients and purchasers want to hear and, as a result, being forced to say little of substance, they are able to stand in Parliament and tell untruths with no great evidence that a significant proportion of the country apart from the media are taking a great deal of interest.

I wonder whether it is the restriction or the freedom which has the greater direct effect on the population.

Yours faithfully,
BENJAMIN TOBIN,
Strettons (Chartered surveyors and estate agents),
189-203 Hoe Street, E17.
March 16.

The care that stroke victims need

From Mrs Patricia Brims

Sir, Ian Robertson's article, "Prisoner of cruel silence" (Body and Mind, March 9), rightly says that a disabling stroke is a common illness that receives little attention. Sir John Hale's symptoms will be painfully familiar to many families who will be glad of the publicity you have given to stroke illness.

But it was depressing for those of us who work as volunteers with dysphasic patients (those with a language disability) that the only mention of voluntary help in the article was when Ms Eirian Jones denigrated it as "amateurish dabbling".

There are in fact plenty of trained and knowledgeable speech therapists in this country. They rarely have time to do justice to stroke victims because of competing claims on their time; children, with their lives ahead of them, rightly take priority, and as a result the provision of professional help available for dysphasic adults is indeed, as Dr Robertson says, woefully inadequate.

I have many friends for whom the Stroke Association has provided support and encouragement in coping with this distressing disability.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA BRIMS,
Pond House, Ramsdell,
Basingstoke, Hampshire.
March 9.

From the Director General of the Stroke Association

Sir, The Stroke Association has been helping dysphasic stroke patients to regain their communication skills for 21 years. Over 4,000 highly trained volunteers work with stroke patients on a one-to-one basis throughout the country. Our Dysphasic Support service operates under contract to health authorities, and its success has been evaluated by researchers at the University of Leeds. It works alongside speech therapists, who view it as a valuable support facility.

The need for such a service was first identified by the actress Patricia Neal, whose husband Roald Dahl employed a whole team of volunteers to help his wife to regain her speech following a stroke. Eventually it was found that the intensive work of one volunteer was far more beneficial.

Stroke is the major cause of serious disability: there are 350,000 people at any one time who have suffered a stroke, many of whom suffer loss of speech.

Yours sincerely,
SYLVIA McLAUCHLAN,
Director General,
The Stroke Association,
CHSA House, Whitecross Street, EC1.
March 9.

From Mrs Molly Manfield

Sir, My husband also had a stroke which robbed him of his ability to speak and write. He was previously a brilliant linguist, speaking fluently seven languages. Communication was his joy. Now he is reduced to a perseverative "da . . . da" in a variety of intonations.

I have worked daily with him since February 1992. We never stop trying and we cling to hope. He recently produced a spontaneous "allo", and he usually greets me with this. This is a tremendous landmark.

Yours sincerely,
MOLLY MANFIELD,
150 Cotwall End Road,
Sedgley, Dudley, West Midlands.
March 9.

Leasehold reform

From the Minister for Housing, Inner Cities and Construction

Sir, Rachel Kelly's article of March 9, "Who wants to become a freeholder?", struck an unduly pessimistic note about the new enfranchisement rights for leaseholders of flats. It also provides a very negative critique of the Leasehold Reform Housing and Urban Development Act.

Enfranchisement of houses has been with us for many years and the concepts are not new. With blocks of flats the questions of organisation are more complex, which is why I have long been a supporter of the need for the newly established Leasehold Enfranchisement Advisory Service and why 110,000 copies of the Department of the Environment's guide to enfranchisement have been distributed. I suspect leaseholders are displaying a great deal more determination to proceed than is implied by Ms Kelly.

Incidentally, the Leasehold Enfranchisement Association's allegation, quoted by Ms Kelly, that the House of Lords made hostile amendments to the legislation, is wrong: the changes in the Lords substantially strengthened the rights available to leaseholders, for example, by giving them a separate right to lease extension.

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE YOUNG,
Department of the Environment,
2 Marsham Street, SW1.

From Mr Gerry Fox

Sir, Rachel Kelly questions the fairness of leasehold valuation tribunals (LVTs) because those sitting on them "will probably have worked at some time for larger landlords in their capacity as chartered surveyors". That suggestion is both unfair and untrue.

Chartered surveyors have a background of providing expert property advice to a wide range of clients — advising both landlords and tenants and often reconciling their differing interests to the satisfaction of both. Their professional objectivity and integrity in making valuations as a member of an LVT would not be compromised by favour to either.

Many chartered surveyors have taken an active role in connection with the leasehold enfranchisement legislation, including advising on amendments during the Bill's parliamentary passage and addressing meetings of tenants without charge and offering without-obligation consultations. The institution's neutral role was to seek to ensure that the legislation was clear and practical.

Yours etc,
GERRY FOX
(Chairman, Leasehold Reform Working Party),
The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors,
12 Great George Street,
Parliament Square, SW1.
March 11.

Youth games

From Councillor Eileen Gray

Sir, I wholeheartedly support Mr David Watson's plea (letter, March 8) for more competitive games in schools and read with interest his experience of inter-school competitions in South India. There is an equally superbly organised annual sports competition in our own country — the London Youth Games. These games have allowed over 8,000 young people from the London boroughs to compete at the Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, in 25 different sports, since 1977. Similar events now take place in Merseyside and Greater Manchester and we are hopeful that the format will be adopted by other areas.

During my time with the British Olympic Association I travelled the world and saw many exciting and invigorating events for young people, and I am proud that Britain is able to boast such marvellous sporting occasions. Mr Watson, and anyone who doubts the future sporting prowess of Britain's youth, should join me at Crystal Palace on July 16 and 17 and see for themselves.

Yours faithfully,
E. GRAY
(Chairman, London Youth Games),
129 Grand Avenue, Surbiton, Surrey.

Melina and marbles

From Miss M. L. Davis

Sir, Mr Sharp (letter, March 12) is mistaken. The lyrics to the song we know as "Never on a Sunday" are, in Greek, a love song for Piraeus, which is the home of the film's central character. The rather banal English lyrics are not even a pretence at translation.

Melina Mercouri's singing of it on the evening of her return to Greece from exile was entirely appropriate, the song being both personal and celebratory.

Yours sincerely,
M. L. DAVIS,
6 Constantius Court,
Church Crookham,
Fleet, Hampshire.
March 12.

From Mr G. A. Michaelides

Sir, Mr Sharp should be told that the marbles belong to Greece.

And Lord Aberconway (letter, March 12) should be told that Lord Elgin did not buy from the owners.

Yours faithfully,
G. A. MICHAELIDES,
Oaklands,
28 Oakleigh Park North, N20.
March 12.

Mental healthcare

From the Parliamentary Secretary for Health

Sir, Contrary to any impression which may have been given by Mr Christopher Cruice Goodall's letter (March 3), the Department of Health does not advise consultants against recalling to hospital patients suffering from chronic paranoid schizophrenia (other letters, March 15) as soon as they stop taking their medication. Section 3 of the Mental Health Act 1983 provides for the compulsory admission of a patient to hospital on the grounds that "it is necessary for the health or safety of the patient or the protection of other persons that he should receive such treatment and it cannot be provided unless he is detained under this section".

Section 2 of the Act lays down broadly similar criteria for admitting a patient to hospital for assessment.

Diagnosis is a medical, not a legal, and certainly not a ministerial, judgment.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BOWIS,
Department of Health,
Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, SW1.

Business letters, page 27

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 071-782 5046.

Hungary's TV and radio 'purged'

From Mr Peter Galliner

Sir, The dismissal on March 4 of 129 Hungarian journalists from the government-controlled radio has focused attention once again on the deplorable lack of freedom of expression in the young Hungarian democracy.

Two years ago, the Hungarian presidents of radio and television were dismissed by the present government, although nobody could accuse them of being Communist-inspired or inclined. In fact, they had been chosen by the government as successors to their Communist predecessors. Since that time, a bitter battle has been going on.

Although State President Göncz took a courageous stand in refusing to sign the dismissal orders, they still lost their jobs. Their replacements have now tightened the government's hold on radio and television, particularly important for the forthcoming elections on May 6.

The latest purge from the state-controlled radio must therefore fill everyone with anxiety. The journalists were given one week's notice, but forced to leave their desks immediately and not allowed to re-enter the building — an action reminiscent of the suppression of the 1956 revolution. Most of them had in fact played a major role in their opposition to the Communist regime, endeavouring to establish a BBC-like independent radio.

Both political and cultural radio programmes have suffered badly. So far as I know, no new editors have yet been found to replace those dismissed. Those still in their jobs are fearful as to their futures. It is to be hoped that once again President Göncz will make his voice heard and condemn this curtailment of freedom of expression.

Yours etc,
PETER GALLINER
(Director, International Press Institute Zurich/London, 1975-94),
27 Walsingham, Queensmead,
St John's Wood Park, NW8.
March 16.

15 Eton Avenue

From Councillor Ernest James

Sir, Councillor Brian Woodrow, chair of Camden Council's development control sub-committee, is wrong to state in his letter of March 5 that "the council" did not "consider the architecture of the existing building [15 Eton Avenue, NW3] to be irreplaceable in view of the later alterations" (Marcus Binney's report, March 1; letter, March 11).

On the contrary, I and most other members of the committee wanted to retain the house. We believed that it was an important example of Voysey-style arts-and-crafts architecture, characterised by its simplicity and restraint, and that it was a vital part of Eton Avenue. "Later alterations", slight in this case, should surely not be used as an excuse for a death warrant.

What lost the building was the fateful conjunction of views of a Camden planning officer and the Department of the Environment inspector. In fact, the inspector quoted approvingly the views of the planning officer, that No 15 was a later and inferior example of the houses in the street. It was not later, nor was it inferior to the others — but it was deliberately different.

Mr Binney was correct in stating that there is a fault in the present legislation which leaves conservation areas open to piecemeal destruction.

Yours faithfully,
ERNEST JAMES,
Camden Council,
The Town Hall, Euston Road, NW1.

Bishops and waste

From Mr Julian Francis

Sir, At a time when the Anglican Church is in some disarray it grates to see eight bishops busying themselves writing to you (March 14) on the subject of toxic waste and the Third World.

However worthy this cause, they should be spending their time giving spiritual leadership and managing the affairs of the Church, rather than being agitators for Greenpeace.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN FRANCIS,
Mizzards Farm, Rogate,
Petersfield, Hampshire.
March 15.

Horses for courses

From Mr R. D. Beale

Sir, A letter received today from one parent informs me that her daughter is spending this week in paid employment at the races, while another letter explains that one of our boys will be spending the week away from Cheltenham so that his room can be let to Irish racegoers.

Are the respective parents to be castigated for encouraging truancy or lauded for providing work experience and encouraging European Awareness?

Yours faithfully,
R. D. BEALE
(Deputy Head),
Pate's Grammar School Cheltenham,
Princess Elizabeth Way,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
March 16.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 16: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace this morning.

Mr Noel Jones (Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Kazakhstan) and Mrs Jones were received by Her Majesty.

By command of The Queen, Vice-Admiral Sir James Weatherall (Marshal of the Diplomatic Corps) called upon His Excellency Mr Chau Phong at 12-14 Victoria Road, Londn W8, this morning in order to bid farewell to His Excellency upon relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to the Court of St James's.

The Prince Edward, Chairman, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Special Projects Group, this evening held a meeting at Buckingham Palace.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 16: The Princess Royal this morning opened the new Challenge Ropes Course at Churchtown Farm Field Outdoor and Environmental Education Centre, Lanlivery, Bodmin, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Cornwall (the Viscount Falmouth).

Lady Carew-Pole was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, President, Royal Cornwall Agricultural Association, this afternoon attended the Council Meeting and Annual General Meeting at the Royal Cornwall Showground, Wadebridge, Cornwall.

The Princess Royal, accompanied by Commander Timothy Laurence RN, this evening attended the Royal Society for Asian Affairs Dinner, Savoy Hotel, London WC2.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 16: The Prince of Wales this morning departd from Royal Air Force Northolt for a day visit to Paris.

His Royal Highness this afternoon visited the office of the British Council in rue de Constantine.

The Prince of Wales afterwards visited British businesses in the new Carousel development, Louvre Museum.

His Royal Highness later visited President Mitterrand at Elysée Palace.

The Prince of Wales, Patron, Philharmonia Orchestra, this evening attended a Concert at the residence of Her Majesty's Ambassador to the French Republic, 35 rue du Faubourg St Honoré.

Mr Stephen Lamport and Mr Allan Percival were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
March 16: The Duchess of Kent this morning attended the Rededication Ceremony of HMS *Brecon*, Rosyth Royal Dockyard, Rosyth, Fife, Scotland, and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Fife (The Earl of Elgin and Kincardine).

Mrs Richard Beckett was in attendance.

The Duke of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief, the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, today received Lieutenant-Colonel James Porter on relinquishing the command of the 5th Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel Keith Kiddle on assuming the appointment.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will visit Emanuel School, Battersea Rise, at 11.30 on the occasion of its 400th anniversary.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother will present shamrock to the Irish Guards at Chelsea Barracks at 11.30 to mark St Patrick's Day.

The Prince of Wales will deliver an address at the World Wide Fund for Nature timber seminar at the Brewery, Chiswell Street, at 10.30.

The Princess Royal, as President of the Save the Children Fund, will attend the birthday appeal group meeting at Buckingham Palace at 9.30.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Grand Prior of the Order of St John, will open the new St John Ambulance headquarters at 2 Edgar Street, Liverpool, at 10.50; will visit sites of the Merseyside Development Corporation in the Wirral at 11.55; will open the Glaxo Neurological Centre, Norton Street, Liverpool, at 2.10; and, as President of the Institute of Advanced Motorists, will attend a reception at the MCC at 6.30.

The Duke of Kent, as Patron of the British Menswear Guild, will visit DAKS Simpson, Larkhall Industrial Estate, Lanarkshire, at 11.05; will visit the Gowkthrapple Co-operative, Heathfield, Wishaw, at 12.15; and will visit the Medi-Park, Strathclyde Business Park, Bellshill, at 1.05.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron of the John Grooms Association for Disabled People, will open Mardon House, Wonford Road, Exeter, at 11.10; will open the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital (Wonford), Barrack Road, at 11.45; and will attend a service of thanksgiving in Exeter Cathedral at 2.30 to mark 200 years of healthcare in Exeter.

Birthdays today

Mr Justice Aldous, 58; Professor J.R. Baines, Egyptologist, 48; Sir Donald Barron, former chairman, Midland Bank, 73; Viscount Bridport, 46; Lady (Megan) Bull, former governor, Holloway Prison, 72; Sir Barry Cross, former president, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, 69; Mr Terry Dicks, MP, 57; Professor David Dilks, vice-chancellor, Hull University, 56; Vice-Admiral Sir Donald Gibson, 78; Sir Arthur Hockaday, former director-general, Commonwealth War Graves Commission, 68; Professor G.M. Hughes, zoologist, 69; Mr Robin Knox-Johnston, yachtsman, 55; the Earl of Lauderdale, 83; Professor John Lill, pianist, 50; Mrs Penelope Lively, writer, 61; Mr Alexander McQueen, fashion designer, 25; Sir Michael Melhuish, diplomat, 62; Lady (James) Mellon, chair, Volunteer Development Scotland, 65; the Most Rev K.M.P. O'Brien, Archbishop of St Andrews and Edinburgh, 56; Mr Tim Rathbone, MP, 61; Sir Patrick Reilly, diplomat, 85; Sir Raymond Rickett, former chairman, Council for National Academic Awards, 67; Mr Kurt Russell, actor, 43; Miss Galina Samsova, ballerina, 57; Mr Brian Sedgemore, MP, 57; Sir Patrick Sergeant, founder, Euromoney Publications, 70; Dr David Stafford-Clark, psychiatrist, 78; and his son Mr Max Stafford-Clark, former artistic director, Royal Court Theatre, 53; Mr Michael Whitaker, showjumper, 34.

Appointment

Michael John Walker to be joint district judge for the districts of the Wandsworth and West London County Courts.

PETER TRIEVNOR



The shelter in Little Venice was constructed in 1889 to keep cabmen on the road and off the drink

New life for shelter that kept cabmen sober

A SMALL green-painted hut in Little Venice, west London, was yesterday adorned with a plaque to commemorate its restoration (John Young writes). The Warwick Avenue Cabmen's Shelter, 104 years old and already listed as of historic and architectural interest, is now secured against decay and destruction.

The shelter is one of 44 edifices built by the Landed Gentry's Cabmen's Shelter Fund, at the instigation of the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Victorian social reformer, in an effort to persuade the cabbies of the day to stay off the booze while on duty. Only 13 now remain, and since 1986 they have been the responsibility of the Heritage of London Trust.

Before unveiling the plaque, Lord Norwich, president of the Paddington Waterways and Maida Vale Society, observed that 1889 was a momentous year. It saw the birth of Charlie Chaplin and Adolf Hitler as well as the completion of two magnificent buildings, the Eiffel Tower and the Warwick Avenue Cabmen's Shelter.

"Although it was the heyday of the temperance movement, very few cabmen would have passed any sort of breathalyser test," he pointed out. In order to keep them out of the Pig and Whistle, where the gentry sent their domestics in attempts to find a remotely sober driver, Lord Shaftesbury had taken on the role of a guiding light in providing food and shelter.

William Bell, chairman of the trust, said that, while the original shelters had been built for not much more than 200 gold sovereigns, each of the survivors was costing more than £20,000 to restore.

Luncheon

Shrievalty of Greater London
Mr Anthony Everett, High Sheriff of Greater London, presided at a luncheon given yesterday at the Savoy Hotel for Mr Alastair Black to mark his retirement as Under Sheriff of Greater London.

Those present were:

Mrs Alastair Black, Mrs Anthony Everett, Dame Simone Prendergast and Mr Anthony Prendergast, Sir Thomas and Lady Macpherson, Sir Godfrey and Lady Taylor, the Hon Roy Constantine, Mr and Mrs Derek Steel, Mr and Mrs James Lemkin, Mr and Mrs Peter Kinninmonth, Mr and Mrs Alec Ramsay, Mr and Mrs Carroll Macnamara, Mr and Mrs Richard Wheeler-Bennett, Mr and Mrs Peter Dimmock, Mr and Mrs Richard Brew, Mr and Mrs Giles Shepard, Mr Simon Birch, Mrs Flavia Ormond, Miss Jacqueline Sellers and Mr and Mrs John Hargrove.

The 10th Earl of Bessborough

A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of the 10th Earl of Bessborough will be held in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, at noon on Wednesday, May 4, 1994. Those wishing to attend should apply for tickets to: Room 4, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, London, SW1P 3PA, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, by April 11. Tickets will be posted on April 21.

Dinners

HM Government
Lord Fraser of Carmyllie, QC, Minister of State at the Scottish Office, was host at a dinner given by Her Majesty's Government last night in Edinburgh Castle to mark the visit to Scotland by the Prime Minister of India.

Royal Society for Asian Affairs
The Princess Royal, accompanied by Commander Timothy Laurence, was the guest of honour and speaker at the annual dinner of the Royal Society for Asian Affairs held last night at the Savoy Hotel. Lord Denman, president, presided. Mr Richard Needham, Minister for Trade, and Sir Michael Wilford also spoke.

European Association of Professional Secretaries
The European Association of Professional Secretaries held its UK Annual Dinner at Claridge's last night, which was attended by 150 members and guests. Sir Brian Jenkins, GBE, was the guest of honour and speaker.

Royal College of Anaesthetists
The Lord Mayor of Westminster attended a dinner of the Royal College of Anaesthetists held last night at the Royal College of Surgeons of England. Professor Alastair A. Spence, president, was the host. Professor Norman Browse, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, Professor Sir David Mason, President of the General Dental Council, Dr Jean Lumley, Vice-President of the Royal College of Anaesthetists, and Professor Sir Donald Campbell, President of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, were the speakers.

Dr Charles W. Suckling delivered the Joseph Clover lecture, Professor C.C. Hug received the fellowship by election and Dr Richard S. Atkinson was presented with the college medal.

Association of London Clubs
The Hon Peter Brooke, CH, MP, was the guest of honour and speaker at the annual dinner of the Association of London Clubs held last night at the Royal Automobile Club. He was welcomed by Mr J.N. Cranfield, Chief Executive of RAC Clubhouses, and Mr R.F. Newell, chairman of the association, presided.

Lord Porritt

A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life and Work of Lord Porritt will be held in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey, at noon on Tuesday, April 26, 1994. Those wishing to attend should apply for tickets to: Room 26, The Chapter Office, 20 Dean's Yard, London, SW1P 3PA, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, by April 8. Tickets will be posted on April 14.

Malvern College

The following have been awarded scholarships at Malvern College to commence from the autumn term 1994:

Sixth Form Scholarships
Academic: Isobel van Daesdonk, Hanley Castle High; Yvonne Mukasa, Howell's, Llandaff; James Williams and Lee Worden, Homefield.
Music: Sophie Lermon, Howell's, Llandaff; James Williams and Alexander Williams, Homefield.
Leadership: Mark Venus and James Williams, Homefield.
Exhibition: Mark Venus, Homefield.
Bursaries: Angela Matchan, St Mary's, Lugwardine; Shaun O'Sullivan, Homefield; Joanna Terry, Howell's, Llandaff.

13+ Scholarships
Academic: Frederick Ackroyd, Abberley Hall; Naomi Ives, Oakley Hall; James Newton, Malvern College Junior School, Hillstone; William Partridge, Arnold Lodge; Jonathan Walters and Adam Williams, Cathedral School, Llandaff; Angus Young, Winchester House.
Music: Kathryn Ashbridge, Abbey School, Tewkesbury.
Art: Adam Williams, Cathedral School, Llandaff.

Exhibitions
Academic: Kathryn Ashbridge, Abbey School, Tewkesbury; Jane Bassett, Malvern College Junior School, Hillstone; Nicola Corry, Beaudesert; Amelia Hepworth, Selwyn; Peter Ogden, The Beacon; Matthew Radley, The Elms.
Music: Naomi Ives, Oakley Hall.
Art: Alexander Attwood, The Elms; Adam Holland, Malvern College Junior School, Hillstone.

11+ Continuation Scholarships
Thomas Hughes, Treffos School, Anglesey, and Jessica Brook, Malvern College Junior School, Hillstone.

Malvern College is a registered charity for the education of children.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D.J.M. Barnes and Miss R.M. Cornett
The engagement is announced between Matthew, younger son of Mr and Mrs Desmond Barnes, of Horning, Norfolk, and Ruth, elder daughter of the late Mr James Cornett and of Mrs Barbara Cornett, of Lower Ballinderry, Co Antrim.

Mr R.G. Bates and Miss D.M.P. Pridham
The engagement is announced between Richard, younger son of Sir Geoffrey Bates, Bt, MC, and the late Lady (Kitty) Bates, of Gyrn Castle, North Wales, and Diana, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Pridham, of Pudleston, Herefordshire.

Mr C.G. Bevan and Mrs C.J. Wauchope
The engagement is announced between Christopher George, son of Mr and Mrs John Bevan, of Plashwood, Haughley, Suffolk, and Charlotte Jane, daughter of Mr Peter Wills, of St Lucia, West Indies, and Mrs John Dudley, of Strickland House, Southwold, Suffolk.

Mr J.A.D. Campbell and Miss J.C. Myring
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr Alistair Campbell and the late Mrs Marnie Campbell, of Babworth, Nottinghamshire, and Judith, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Myring, of Burton on the Wolds, Leicestershire.

Mr T.J. Clark and Miss K.J. Franklin-Adams
The engagement is announced between Tim, only son of Mr and Mrs Colin D. Clark, of Shamley Green, Surrey, and Katherine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Patrick M. Franklin-Adams, of Ewhurst, Surrey.

Mr E.J. Gill and Miss N.A. Pryse
The engagement is announced between Elliot, son of Mr and Mrs John Gill, of Worcester Park, Surrey, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Pryse, of New Malden, Surrey.

Mr L.StV. Fox and Miss N.A. Basile
The engagement is announced between Laurence St Vigor, son of Mr Charles Fox, of Gillingham, Dorset, and of Mrs Charlotte Fox, of Cullompton, Devon, and Nancy, younger daughter of Mr John Basile, of Westchester, New York, and the late Mrs Wilma Basile.

Mr C.J.M. Kettle and Miss V.C. Hunter
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of the late Major Rupert Kettle and of Mrs Kettle, of Piper's Hill, Bishop's Itchington, Warwickshire, and Virginia, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Hunter, of Kirtlington, Oxfordshire.

Lord Lowry and Mrs B. Calvert, QC
The engagement is announced between Lord Lowry, husband of Mary, the late Lady Lowry, of White Hill, Crossgar, Co Down, and Mrs Barbara Calvert, QC, widow of John T. Calvert, CBE, of Ashley Gardens, London, SW1.

Mr L. McCune and Professor C.M. Temple
The engagement is announced between Leslie, son of Mr and Mrs James McCune, of Fowey, Cornwall, and Christine Margaret, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Temple, of Edinburgh.

Mr B.V.R. Thomas and Miss K.T. Worsley
The engagement is announced between Ben, younger son of Mr and Mrs David Thomas, of Bagnum, Hampshire, and Katie, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Worsley, of Holkham, Norfolk.

Mr S.E. Willoughby and Miss B.M. Koehne
The engagement is announced between Sigurd, son of Nigel and Mette Willoughby, of Headcorn, Kent, and Barbara, daughter of Josef and Helge Koehne, of Tettnang, Germany.

Appointments in the Forces

Royal Navy & Royal Marines
CAPTAIN: T L M Sunter - Rosyth 23.8.94; J R Luard - Yeovilton 9.9.94; T Morton - Norfolk 6.9.94; M G Wood - Devonport 6.9.94; C B York - MOD Bath 9.9.94

COMMANDER: G S Beard - Washington 1.7.94; R A Harrison - MOD London 16.9.94; T R Herman - Neptune 11.11.94; B L Heselton - MOD London 10.6.94; D A Humphrey - Trenchant in Cmd 31.8.94; T W D Le Manquais - Alverstoke 9.9.94; J Paton - Staff of 2SL/CNH 26.7.94; A T Welch - Cambridge in Cmd 4.11.94; S T Williams - Neptune 26.8.94; S G Wilson - MOD London 23.9.94; C P Young - Yeovilton 30.9.94; N J Youseman - Nato 31.8.94.

MAJOR: R M Bowkett - RM Norton Manor 8.7.94.

The Army
Major General Raymond Austin Pett to be Colonel Commandant The King's Division.

COLONEL: R J Morris - To be Comd BBGT(LG), 14.3.94.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL: G D Duthoit R Anglian - To Be CO ATR Bassingbourn, 14.3.94; R S Hewitt R Signals - To be CO Tayforth UNIVS OTC, 14.3.94; C N Holman RE - To be CO 72 Engr Regt(V), 14.3.94; M J Morgan RA - To JACIG(AE), 14.3.94; C M Sexton RE - To be CO 33 Engr Regt (EOD), 14.3.94; R H T Aitken RRW - To HQ UKLF, 14.3.94; R N M Eggar RA - To MOD, 14.3.94; A J Hutt R Signals - To Sig Sch RAC Cen, 14.3.94; J F Wheeley RE - To HQ EinC, 14.3.94.

Royal Air Force
AIR COMMODORE: C G Winsland - To HQ PTC 14.3.94.

GROUP CAPTAIN: S W Cadogan - To HQPTC 9.3.94; A J Needham - To HQ MATO 11.3.94; C Cho-Young - To HQ PTC 14.3.94; C J A Abbott - To HQ STC 14.3.94

WING COMMANDER: I F Davidson - To HQ 2 Gp 28.2.94; C R Lambert - To RAF Fire Serv CTE 7.3.94; C F Shaw - To HQ STC 14.3.94; I Harvey - To RAF PMC 14.3.94

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Thomas Chalmers, 1st Moderator of the Free Church of Scotland (1843-47), Anstruther, 1780; Edmund Kean, actor, London, 1789; Gottlieb Daimler, pioneer of motor cars, Schorndorf, Germany, 1834; Margaret Bondfield, first woman chairman of the Trades Union Congress 1923, first woman cabinet minister 1929-31, Chard, Somerset, 1873; R.T. (Bobby) Jones, golfer, Atlanta, Georgia, 1902.

DEATHS: Marcus Aurelius, Roman Emperor 161-180, Vindobona, (Vienna), 180; Harold, King of the English 1035-40, Oxford, 1040; George Parker, 2nd Earl of Macclesfield, astronomer, Shirburn Castle, Oxfordshire, 1764; Daniel Bernoulli, mathematician, Basel, 1782; David Dale, industrialist and philanthropist, Glasgow, 1806; Friedrich Bessel, astronomer, Königsberg, 1846; Christian Doppler, physicist, Venice, 1853; Isaac Babel, short story writer, Russia, 1941; Sir John Bagot Glubb (Glubb Pasha), Commander of the Arab Legion 1939-56, Sussex, 1986.

Today is the Feast of St Patrick, Apostle of the Irish.

Marriage

Mr W.H.N. Edmonstone and Mrs S.P.D. Rees
The marriage took place quietly in Kenya, on Friday, March 11, 1994, between Mr Neil Edmonstone, son of the late Commander Edward and the Hon Mrs Edmonstone, and Mrs Patricia Rees, daughter of the late Squadron Leader Finan O'Driscoll and of Mrs Elizabeth Newton.

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My son, keep my words; store up my commands in your mind. Keep my commands if you would live, and treasure my teaching as the apple of your eye.
Proverbs 7:1,2

BIRTHS

ADAMS - On 15th March 1994 at Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea Hospital, to Jackie and Giles, a son, Peter James, a brother for Olivia and William.

ADCOCK - On 13th March, to Kathleen (née Scales) and James, a son, Joseph Brooker Adcock.

ADDISON - On 11th March 1994, to Catherine (née Woolgar) and Daniel, a daughter, Isabel Eleanor Mary, a sister for Freddie.

BENYON - On March 14th, to Emma and Richard, a son, Frederick Richard, a brother for Harry and Thomas.

BICKNELL - On February 17th 1994, to Clare (née Mosley) and Mark, a daughter, Cecilia, a sister for Augustus.

BROWN - On March 11th 1994, to Helen (née Rowe) and Jeremy, daughters, Tabitha Daisy Grace and Holly Constance Kathleen, sisters for Kirsty.

BRUNERO - On 16th March 1994, to Deborah (née Battsek) and Anthony, a son, Samuel David.

COULSON - On March 12th at The Portland Hospital, to Rebecca (née Reed) and Andrew, a wonderful son, Jack Andrew 7lbs 12oz at 10.32 am. A little miracle.

DAWKINS - On March 14th 1994 at St Thomas' Hospital, to Teresa and Ian, a son, George Ian.

DIXON-WARREN - On March 16th, to Philippa (née Tubbs) and Richard, a daughter, Katherine Claire.

HARRISON - On 15th March 1994, to Alice (née Hutton) and David, a daughter, Corinna Marian Mona.

HOARE - On 14th March 1994, to Joanne (née Bayliss) and Christopher, a daughter, Charlotte Joanne.

LANGFORD - Ceri and Karen (née Fellows) are pleased to announce the arrival of a son Rupert Tristan on Sunday 6th March, a brother for Nathan.

MACARTNEY - To Phiz and Patrick, on 12th March, a son, Alexander.

MACKAY - On 14th March, to Sarah (née Stacey) and Hugh, a daughter, Sophia Caroline.

MORRALL - On 15th March, to Sassy (née Kohlmeyer) and Andrew, a daughter, Imogen Alice, a sister for Rachel.

NICOLL - To Lisa (née Vaughan) and Alexander, on March 13th 1994, at The Royal Free Hospital, a son, Cameron, a brother for Sophie.

ORCHARD - On March 14th 1994 at The Rosie, Cambridge, to Cecilia (née Page) and Rupert, a daughter, Elizabeth Mary, a sister for Catherine and Thomas.

POLLARD - On 12th March 1994, to Derryn (née Holmes) and Philip, a daughter, Penelope (Penny) Jeane, a sister for Lucy, Alice and Emily.

RUSSELL - On 10th March, to Elizabeth (née Marples) and Henry, a son, James George Hamilton, a brother for William.

VAIL - On March 10th at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Amanda (née Dutton-Forshaw) and Dominic, a daughter, Alice Isabella, a sister for Lucy.

WOMERSLEY - On 14th March, to Fiona (née Graham) and James, a son, Nicholas Angus George, a brother for Edward and Thomas.

DEATHS

ALLEN - On March 13th 1994, John, dearly loved husband of the late Pegilia, darling father of Alisa and Antonia and dearest grandfather of Patrick and Francesca. Private family funeral. Donations, if desired, to Friends of Burwash Surgery c/o C. Waterhouse & Sons, High Street, Burwash, E. Sx. tel: (0435) 882219.

ALLINGHAM - On March 15th, peacefully at Winchester Hospital, Peter, much loved husband to Catherine and loving father and grandfather. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at Wherwell Church on Monday March 21st at 2.30pm. No flowers please - donations if desired to The Macmillan Hospice, Andover.

BESWICK - John, Husband of Nadine. On March 14th peacefully at home at Redhill, Herts. Enquiries to E.H. Crouch F/D. (0462) 893191.

BULMAN - Maida, on March 15th died peacefully at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge. Dearly beloved wife of the late John and mother of Harriet, Charles, Andrew and Claire. Private cremation. A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday 17th April at 3 pm at St James' Church, Wulfstan Way, Cambridge, to which any donations may be made.

CAMPBELL - On March 13th at home, Ian Olpherts Grant. Much loved by all his family and friends. Funeral Service on Saturday March 19th at 2.30 pm at Sampford Spiney Church, near Yelverton, Devon. No flowers, but donations if desired to R.N.L.I. c/o Morris Brothers, 1 Drake Road, Tavistock, phone: (0822) 612023.

FITZADAM-ORMISTON - On March 15th, at home, John Thompson, aged 89. Beloved husband of Do and devoted father of Timbo. Funeral Service at St Andrew's Church, Miserden, on Wednesday March 23rd at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Andrew's Church, Miserden, c/o Packer & Slade, 1 City Bank Road, Cirencester, Glos.

FRASER - The Honourable Andrew - died on 15th March 1994 in Africa. Funeral will be held in Scotland. Details to be announced later.

FRERE - On March 15th in her 96th year at The Hope Nursing Home, Marie Pauline (née de Guingand). Loving and much loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral Service at Cambridge City Crematorium, New West Chapel, on Monday 21st March at 2.30 pm. No flowers but donations, if desired, to The Hope Nursing Home, Cambridge CB2 2BQ.

HAMPTON - Leila Margaret on March 15th 1994 aged 78 years, peacefully after a long illness very bravely borne. Dearly loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral at 1pm 21st March at St John's Cathedral, Oban, Argyllshire. Private cremation to follow later. Flowers to the Cathedral or donations if desired to The Dalintart Hospital Equipment Fund c/o Mr Ennis, Administrator, The Dalintart Hospital, Oban, Argyllshire.

HARRISON - On 10th March 1994, Patrick, Abbey Farm, Renhold, Beds. Funeral Service, 11.30 am Wednesday 23rd March, All Saints, Renhold, Beds.

JEFFERSON - On Tuesday 15th March 1994 peacefully at home with his family, after a courageous and dignified battle against cancer. Peter, much loved husband of Rosalind, father of Nicola, Sally and Mark, father-in-law of Matthew and Paul and grandfather of Oliver. Funeral Service at St Michael and All Angels' Church, Bramhall, on Monday 21st March 1994 at 2.45 pm. Family flowers only. Donations if desired, for Cancer Care to the Peter Jefferson Memorial Fund c/o Ben Lloyd (Funeral Directors), 51 Station Road, Cheadle Hulme, Stockport SK8 7AA. 'No man is an island entire of it self'.

LITTLEWOOD - On 15th March, peacefully at Barrington Lodge, Cheltenham, Charlotte, aged 96 years. Widow of Charles and dearly loved mother of Lorna, Gwen, Margot and the late Roy. Beloved grandmother and great-grandmother. The funeral service will take place at St Mary's Church, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, on Friday 25th March at 2.15 pm, followed by cremation. Flowers may be sent to Selim Smith & Co., 74 Prestbury Road, Cheltenham.

MARWOOD-ELTON - Daphne, on March 14th, peacefully in hospital, after a short illness, beloved wife of David for 42 years. Funeral at St Veep Church, Monday March 21st at 2 pm.

MIERS - On 15th March 1994, peacefully at Lettoch, Honor, widow of Col. R.D.M.C. Miers, beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral at 12 noon at St Mary's, Beauly tomorrow, Friday 18th March. Family flowers only. R.I.P.

OAK-RHIND - Clive, elder son of Eileen and Ralph, on 14th March in Nairobi. Always in our thoughts.

ORMISTON - See Fitzadam-Ormiston.

PROTHEROE - Miriam Alice, on March 14th suddenly at home, dearly loved by her late husband Cyril and by her daughter Margaret, son-in-law Ian and grandsons Martin and Ben. Funeral Service at 3 pm Wednesday March 23rd at Chichester Crematorium. Flowers to F.A. Holland, Chichester.

RAVEN - On March 15th 1994, peacefully in The James Paget Hospital, Gorleston, aged 73 years. Margaret. Much loved wife of the Reverend Tom Raven. Dearest mother of Jean, Frances and Ian and son-in-law Peter. A dearly loved granny to Jenny, Thomas, Victoria, George and Philip. Funeral Service at Holton St Peter's Church on Wednesday March 23rd at 1.45 pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, but donations if desired for Faith in Action c/o Woolnoughs Funeral Service, The Chapels, Holton Road, Halesworth, Suffolk.

REDSTONE - On March 16th 1994, peacefully at home, Charles Coleman, beloved husband of Edith and father of Amanda and Peter, grandfather of Rebecca, Jenni, Ella, Miriam, Elias and Alex. Funeral and cremation at Golders Green Crematorium at 1 pm on Friday 18th March.

REID - On March 2nd 1994 in Capetown, S.A., James Leslock (Jimmy) formerly R.S.T. Zambia. Dearly loved husband of Jacquie, father of Jean and John and grandfather of Kaeli and Neil. Sadly missed by family and friends.

RUSSELL - Joan Patricia, on Tuesday March 15th, peacefully at home in Meadle, Bucks. Beloved wife of Mark and mother of Simon, Angela, Julia, Dominic, Amanda and grandmother to many. Requiem Mass at St Teresa's, Princes Risborough, at 11.30am on Tuesday March 22nd. Family flowers only, donations if desired to Iain Rennie Hospice at Home c/o Surman and Horwood Funeral Service, 25 High Street, Princes Risborough, Bucks. HP27 0AE.

RUSSELL - On 13th March, peacefully at Haslar Hospital. Walter Alan, very dear husband of Rosemary (née Longsdon) and much loved father of Henry and Robin and good friend to many. Private cremation. Thanksgiving Service at St Peter's Church, Titchfield, on Saturday March 26th at 2.30 pm. Enquiries to A.H. Freemantle F/D, (0329) 842116.

SABINE - On 14th March 1994, suddenly but very peacefully, Neville Warde, dearly loved husband of Zoe, brother of Basil and Audrey, father of Richenda and Edwina, grandfather of Oliver and Eleanor. Service at the Woodvale Crematorium, Lewes Road, Brighton, on Monday 21st March at 1.45 pm. Family flowers only but donations if desired to The Childrens Society c/o Hanningtons F/D, 4/6 Montefiore Road, Hove, tel: (0273) 778733.

STOKES - Monica. On 11th March aged 86. Requiem 3pm, 23rd March, St Mary Magdelene, SW14. Enquiries (071) 722-8891.

VINCENT - On March 16th, peacefully at home, Elizabeth (Betty) in her 98th year, of Bampton. Widow of the late Air Vice Marshal S.F. Vincent. Funeral Service to take place at St Mary's Church, Bampton, on Tuesday March 22nd at 2.30pm. No flowers by request. Donations if desired for the RAF Benevolent Fund c/o E. Taylor and Son Funeral Directors, Corbett Road, Carterton, Oxon. OX18 3LC. Will be sadly missed by all her family.

WALCH - On 11th March 1994. Arthur Gordon OBE Brigadier (rtd) aged 88 of Kingston, Tasmania. Returning home to Marden, Wiltshire with Memorial Service at All Saints Church at noon 12th April.

WILLIAMS - Alfred James of Haughley Park, Suffolk. Died peacefully in his sleep on 15th March. Very dearly beloved husband of Agatina and dearest father of Esther, Robert, Mary and Andrew. Private cremation 21st March. Flowers to Clutterham's by 11 am please, or donations, if preferred, to Suffolk Historic Churches Trust c/o F. Clutterham & Son, 23 Mustow Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. Memorial Service at St Mary's Church, Bury St Edmunds Friday 22nd April at 2.30 pm.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

HAYWARD - Richard Arthur Kt. C.B.E. A Memorial Service will be held at 12 noon on Tuesday 10th May 1994 at Guy's Hospital Chapel, London SE1.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

ATHERTON - Claudia (née Williams), on March 17th 1989. Always loved, sadly missed, by Eric, Mary and Ann.

ADOPTIONS

HEWKIN - Daughter Alice born 20/8/93 was adopted by Peter and Kari on 12/3/94 in Zhenjiang, P.R. China - thanks to cooperation between Norway and China.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

E. Straker. Good luck with the business. Cancel meeting on 20/3/94. Next meeting on 6/4/94. Mr Meridian.

FELDHAUS Joanne, please get in contact with, John Hopewell III Attorney at law. Call collect Louisiana 5043839963.

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هكذا من الأصل

Forthcoming marriages

Marriage

Anniversaries

OBITUARIES

DENIS HALL ROONEY

Denis Hall Rooney, CBE, former chairman of the National Nuclear Corporation, died on March 9 aged 74. He was born on August 9, 1919.



THE appointment of Denis Hall Rooney to head the troubled National Nuclear Corporation (NNC) 14 years ago was acclaimed as the ideal answer to Whitehall's problems. In less than a year, however, it was all to end in tears.

The NNC, a consortium of industry and the Atomic Energy Authority, had been set up by the Heath Government in 1973 to carry out a nuclear power programme for Britain. The Department of Energy had given it a target of building ten new power stations within ten years.

But the alliance of industrial giants, more accustomed to competition than co-operation, had been uneasy. Bedevilled by a weak managerial structure, it had found itself divided by such basic issues as the selection of a nuclear reactor: the British advanced gas-cooled design or the American pressurised water type. The NNC board had even failed to reach agreement on the choice of a successor to Lord Aldington, its outgoing chairman.

Then along came Hall Rooney, the chairman of Balfour Beatty and vice-chairman of its parent group British Insulated Callender's Cables (BICC), who seemed to be ideal on several counts. Not only had he spent his career on the construction side of one of Britain's largest electrical contractors but he also had experience of building nuclear power stations, through Balfour Beatty's construction of Dungeness "B". Moreover, he came to the NNC as an outsider with a reputation for being his own man.

Yet ten months later Hall Rooney had resigned, amid stories of sour struggles in the boardroom. Matters came to a head over the placing of £270 million worth of orders for the nuclear stations at Heysham, Lancashire and Torness in East Lothian. Fellow directors accused Hall Rooney of placing the contracts without their approval.

But Hall Rooney was also personally disillusioned by what he saw as a cooling of government enthusiasm for the nuclear power programme, reflected by dwindling resources and support. Bitterly disappointed and frustrated, he said that the country had thrown away the chance to provide the infrastructure for cheap power.

Many of his contemporaries agreed with him and mourned his going, not least senior members of the Central Electricity Generating Board who felt he had at last been giving the NNC the strong leadership it needed.

Denis Michael Hall Rooney had learnt his independence the hard way. Born in Liverpool into a family which had originated beside the Mourne Mountains in Co Down, he sailed as a baby to Calcutta where his father, an accountant, was head of the Bengal telephone service. Rooney senior had the unusual distinction of once sacking a girl employee who was later to make her name in Hollywood as Merle Oberon. At the age of six young Denis followed the sad trail of other imperial children to a boarding school in England. For two whole years he never saw his parents.

Preparatory school led to the Jesuit discipline of Stonyhurst, where his reticence earned him the sobriquet of "Oyster". Schooldays were immediately followed by a one-year student apprenticeship at Metropolitan Vickers. From there he went to Downing College, Cambridge, where he read mechanical sciences and played rugby, cricket, squash and golf for the college.

After returning briefly to Metropolitan Vickers, he was commissioned into the Royal Navy as an engineer officer in 1941 and served in the Mediterranean in support of the operations in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. His most conspicuous naval experience, however, came early in the war when he sailed in the mine-laying cruiser *Adventure* to Archangel, the first British warship to go there in 20 years, to deliver a consignment of the most modern naval warfare equipment for the Soviet navy. Forty years later at a dinner in London, the Soviet Ambassador presented him with a Soviet Jubilee Medal to commemorate the hazardous and top secret expedition.

On being demobilised, Hall Rooney joined BICC and was to spend the next 34 years with either the main group or its subsidiary, Balfour Beatty, specialising in railway electrification. As a young site engineer he worked on the electrification of the Liverpool Street-Shenfield line, controlling a team of 60 labourers.

He was to become involved in masterminding some of the major British Rail power programmes as well as many others overseas. The growth of Balfour Beatty's reputation as a major international contractor has been largely credited to his influence. He was a director of a number of other companies and served on the British Overseas Trade Board in various capacities, particularly as chairman of its Southeast Asia Trade Advisory Group. He was appointed a CBE in the Queen's Silver Jubilee honours list of 1977 for his services to exports.

A staunch Roman Catholic, he belonged to the Christian Association of Business Executives and the Institute of Business Ethics and was treasurer of the West London Committee for the Protection of Children. His social life included membership of the Batti-Wallahs Society, an association of marine electrical engineers. But his main off-duty passion lay on the golf course.

Following the death of his first wife Theresa ("Terry") ten years ago, he married his second wife Muriel, to whom he said: "I don't care about the 'honour and obey' bit, but I do expect you to learn golf" — which she did.

She survives him, together with three sons and three daughters from his first marriage and one step-daughter.

CAPTAIN ANTHONY FLEMING

Captain Anthony Fleming, MBE, former SAS officer who was seriously wounded during fighting in Dhofar in 1976, died on March 3 aged 54. He was born in November 1939.

THE little publicised counter-insurgency operation in the Omani province of Dhofar in the 1970s, during which Tony Fleming was crippled for life, was one on which the SAS made an impact out of all proportion to the mere handful of its men involved. Beginning in 1965 as a revolt by mountain tribesmen against the harsh regime of Sultan Sa'ib bin Taimur, the insurrection received armed support from Communist South Yemen from 1967 onwards and began to assume a much more serious character.

The bloodless overthrow of Sa'ib bin Taimur by his son Sultan Qaboos, in 1970, initiated a regime committed to the removal of civil abuses and to speedy reform. But by that time it had become clear to Sultan Qaboos that the effectiveness of the guerrilla war in the Jebel, the mountain fastnesses of Dhofar, threatened the unity of the Omani state itself. While able to embark on an expansion of his own armed forces, thanks to Oman's oil revenues, Sultan Qaboos also appealed to the British Government for some military help. From the early 1970s onwards this took the form of teams of SAS advisers who trained and led counter-insurgents — often former rebels whom they had persuaded to change sides through the type of "hearts and minds" campaign which had worked so well for the British in other anti-guerrilla wars.

In 1976 Tony Fleming was part of 16 Troop, SAS, freefall parachute specialists whose training included drops from 22,000ft through cloud, at night, with 80lbs of military equipment. On June 27 that year the troop was creeping after dark through the monsoon mists, which are a feature of the Jebel in summertime, in search of a Communist-manned Katyusha rocket launcher. The troop stumbled on an enemy key point and a confused battle followed in which several SAS men were wounded. One, Lance-Corporal "Geordie" Small, was killed outright. Also hit, Fleming appeared to be dead. When he regained consciousness his legs were numb. He would never walk again.

In repeated experimental operations, he was a willing guinea-pig at the Maudsley Hospital and, for the rest of his life, he carried electrodes and wires implanted in his body in a brave but unsuccessful attempt to make good the damage to his spine.

Tony Fleming was born into a large, working-class family in Liverpool. He left school at 14, joined the Merchant Navy and sailed round the world over the next four years. He then joined The Parachute Regiment and served in the 3rd Battalion under two charismatic commanders, Roly (later Field Marshal) Gibbs and Anthony (later Lieutenant-General) Farrar-Hockley. He boxed for the Army, subsequently joined the Army Physical Training Corps and became a warrant officer with the Royal Green Jackets and UN forces in Cyprus.

In 1970 he dropped in rank and pay to win admission to 22 SAS as a trooper — the equivalent of private soldier — as the rules required. But he was returned to the AFTC after an argument "on a point of principle" with Royal Military Police officers. Within a year, however, he had rejoined the SAS, having passed the regiment's punishing selection course for a second time. At the time of the SAS Dhofar operation in which he was wounded he had been commissioned.

Fleming almost died from his injuries and was crippled thereafter. Nevertheless, as a fluent Arab speaker, he was recruited to serve as an intelligence officer in the Sultan's Special Forces within three years of his accident. He carried out his duties from a wheelchair, working alongside some of the ex-Communists against whom he had fought in Dhofar.

On one occasion in 1986, while driving his adapted Volvo at high speed across the Empty Quarter — the border region between Oman and Saudi Arabia — by night, he crashed. Crawling out of the wreckage, he retrieved his wheelchair, erected it and then waited for someone to find him. When a highway police patrol found him, the Omani officer could not understand how a road traffic casualty could have the prescience to equip himself with an invalid carriage in anticipation of the accident.

Fleming's response to paraplegia was: "I must now develop my intellect for the first time in my life. There's nothing else left." He became an undergraduate at Exeter University, reading Arabic and Muslim studies. His third year, prior to graduation, was spent at Cairo University, where he was sponsored by Madame Sadat, the wife of the former President Anwar Sadat.

He is survived by his wife Terri and three daughters.

JACK HARGREAVES

Jack Hargreaves, television broadcaster and professional countryman, died on March 15 aged 82. He was born in Yorkshire on December 31, 1911.



APPRECIATION of the crafts of the countryside and its traditional pursuits were brought home to several generations of mostly urban television viewers by Jack Hargreaves. Usually attired in shapeless tweeds, waders or gumboots, a battered fly-festooned hat and smoking a pipe, he introduced the tranquillity of riverside and woods into the nation's living rooms as he explained, in deceptively simple terms, the complexities of baiting hooks, laying hedges, constructing makeshift fishing rods, tending an injured bird or re-thatching a roof.

Beginning with *Gone Fishing* in 1959 through such programmes as *Out of Town*, *How* and *Country Boy*, he exemplified country living on television for more than 20 years and nourished interest in it. His rural mannerisms and expertise were only one aspect of his talents, though, and they existed side by side with a journalistic and business acumen which enabled him to combine his outdoor pursuits with being deputy programme controller of Southern Television for 12 years from 1964.

Jack Hargreaves was the son of a Yorkshire farmer and had to milk the cows before setting off for school. By the time he was five he was fishing and at nine he was shooting. He added riding and sailing to his activities later. But after attending Merchant Taylor's School and London University he pursued an executive career in Fleet Street, becoming editor of *Lilliput* magazine and then deputy editor of *Picture Post*. He was also involved in the launch of *Angling Times*, which went on to attain the world's largest circulation among fishing publications.

It was not until 1959, when he was 48 and a part-time press officer at the National Farmers Union, that Hargreaves began to develop a career as a professional countryman. He was invited to participate in a series of six short films for Southern Television called *Gone Fishing*. The series was extended to 12, then 32 and in 1960 was transformed into *Out of Town*. By this time it had broadened its focus from fishing to general country matters and attracted a nationwide audience of several million. With his ability to discourse, unscripted, on country topics, his bearded, weatherbeaten features and unhurried demeanour, Hargreaves was a natural television performer.

At the heart of his approach was the realisation that during his own lifetime the pattern of living in Britain had changed radically. In his youth even people who lived urban lives had relatives who lived rural ones. By the time of *Out of Town* seven out of ten people were living urban existences, many having no contacts at all with rural life.

The *Out of Town* formula was simple and, even in the early 1960s, somewhat old-fashioned. To the accompaniment of Max Bygraves singing the song, "Gone Fishin'," it opened with film of two shire horses pulling a plough, dissolving to Hargreaves, invariably puffing on his briar-pipe, sitting at a workbench in a studio transformed into a stable. From there he would introduce a series of film sequences featuring sheep being sheared, sailing boats rigged, tractors ploughing, trout being tickled or a hundred and one other outdoor activities which were mostly unfamiliar to urban viewers. One featured a neurotic horse that suddenly could not bear to be bridled.

Jack Hargreaves's particular talent was his ability to talk to a largely uninformed audience about such matters in an instructive but entertaining fashion without losing their attention in a mass of technicalities. The pace of the programme was deliberately unhurried.

By 1962 Hargreaves had become one of Southern Television's executive producers and two years later was made deputy controller of programmes. He said he maintained his dual role by doing his office work from Monday to Friday and filming *Out of Town* at the weekends.

In 1966 he extended his television canvas beyond simply outdoor pursuits when he devised and began presenting *How*, a series aimed particularly at younger viewers showing how various tasks are performed. The programme ran for more than 13 years, the tasks ranging from showing how eskimos catch polar bears to how spaghetti rings are made.

In another series, *Country Boy*, Hargreaves took a 13-year-old London Cockney around the countryside teaching him country lore.

Such programmes turned Hargreaves into something of a cult television personality (he was voted pipe-smoker of the year in 1970).

He retired in 1981 when Southern TV lost its franchise to Television South but was approached by Channel 4 and continued the show for a further three years, after which he lived in modest retirement with his wife Isobel in their cottage in Dorset.

PHILIPPE DAUDY

Philippe Daudy, former secretary of the French section of the Franco-British Council, died in Peking on March 12 aged 68. He was born in Paris on June 17, 1925.



Daudy, right, talking to Sir Ewen Fergusson, British Ambassador to Paris, 1987-92

A FORMER member of the French Resistance, journalist and author, Philippe Daudy was a great friend of England. As an 18-year-old he fought (and was seriously wounded) in the Resistance, and was awarded the Médaille Militaire.

He spent 15 years as a journalist and war correspondent and had written five books of history and nine novels — the latter under three different names. He had edited the complete works of Napoleon and Diderot, and been editor-in-chief of the 37-volume *Nouvelle Histoire de France*.

The son of a doctor, Bernard Daudy, he was educated at the Collège des Oratoriens de Juilly, near Paris, and at the École pratique des hautes études. He became involved in French Resistance activities as a young man, towards the end of the war.

After the war he worked, from 1946 to 1961, as a journalist for Agence France Presse. Afterwards he wrote a number of books. Some of these, under the name Paul Paoli, were novels. Among his non-fiction was his magnum opus, the *Nouvelle Histoire de France*. But he also wrote on 17th-century painting, travel and published one of his favourite books, *Les Anglais*, in 1989.

He was appointed secretary of the French section of the Franco-British Council, established under the presidency of Georges Pompidou, in 1972. In recognition of his work for understanding between the two countries he was appointed honorary CBE.

Philippe Daudy was one of the most effective — if also one of the most unorthodox — unofficial ambassadors that France has ever had. Quintessentially French though he was, he also cherished, from his earliest years, a deep love of England. Immediately on his arrival here he set out to write a book which would finally and authoritatively explain the English to the French.

No one could have been better qualified. As early as 1972, when Edward Heath and Georges Pompidou had founded the Franco-British Council, Philippe had been appointed director of the French side, in which capacity he had organised fifty or more meetings, seminars or colloquies between the British and French representatives of every conceivable profession and walk of life. Working on his own behalf, he flung himself into his new task with all his usual gusto. The result was *Les Anglais*, which was published in Paris in 1989 and — beautifully translated by his daughter Isabelle — in London a year or two later. To all who are interested in this country and its institutions, on both sides of the Channel, it should be required reading.

Philippe Daudy is survived by his third wife Marie-Christine, whom he married in 1968, and by their son and daughter, and by a daughter of his second marriage and two daughters of his first.

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Tourists defy the terror bombers

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

OVERSEAS visitors to Britain remained defiant this week in the face of attacks by the IRA at Heathrow airport.

Travel agents in the United States say there have been no mass cancellations from tour groups. They had feared that millions of American tourists would alter travel plans as they did after the outbreak of the Gulf War.

The British Tourist Authority's New York office said the attacks had a "limited impact" on bookings. And the American Society of Travel Agents said that after the bombing of the World Trade Centre in New York, people now recognised that terrorists could strike anywhere and were more philosophical about the risks.

Nearly three million Americans visit the UK every year, earning Britain about £1.6 billion in tourist revenue. Most pass through Heathrow.

Tour operators believe that holidaymakers from Europe are also unlikely to cancel, because they are used to seeing news reports of IRA terrorist attacks.

Foreign tourists queuing outside the Tower of London this week were displaying a British-style "stiff upper lip" response to terrorism. A couple from Michigan, Alan Field, 57, and his wife Audrey, 54, flew into Heathrow on Saturday despite the IRA mortars. Mr Field said: "We knew about the previous attacks and we were a little apprehensive but the chances of being involved in a terrorist attack are very small."

The couple did not know the name of Gerry Adams, the president of Sinn Fein. Mrs Field said: "Usually Northern Ireland only makes a paragraph in our newspapers."

Another couple, Teresa and Rob Gras, were due to arrive at Heathrow on Sunday from Amsterdam but were diverted to Stansted and learnt of the mortar attacks on the evening television news. Mr Gras, 43, said: "We still would have come in spite of the warnings. It is a chance you have to take."

Josef Kobel, 36, and Manuela Forkel, 21, from Germany, had to wait for an hour before their flight landed at Heathrow during Sunday's security alert. Mr Kobel said: "We knew of the risks but decided not to let such things ruin our travel plans."

Some tour operators, though, warn that the travelling public is notoriously fickle. JAC Travel, one of London's largest overseas tour operators, said that if the IRA continued its campaign, the number of American visitors could drop by half this year.

Michael Evans, sales director, said: "If last Wednesday's attack had been a one-off I think we would have had little to worry about.

"However, Americans are very jittery when going to regions they regard as dangerous. We had hoped the market would recover in 1994 and until last week numbers had been growing by more than 70 per cent."

International airlines rely heavily on the income from American visitors and about a third of British Airways' income derives from its services to 19 American cities.

On the average flight across the Atlantic, 60 per cent of seats are filled by passengers from America and 40 per cent by those from from Britain. Last year 3.3 million people came to Britain from North America, of whom 2.8 million were from the United States. Their impact on the British economy was significant — they spent £1.6 billion. Hopes had been high that far more would come this year.



Nemesis, an artist's impression of the first roller coaster in Europe that allows passengers to ride on the outside of the 360 degree loop

Roller coasting on Mickey's tail

BY DAVID CHURCHILL



■ Disney's Mickey Mouse (left) could be in deep trouble when more theme parks are opened and existing ones introduce terrifying new rides

THE newly rescued Euro Disney faces fierce competition this season from new roller coasters and attractions at other theme parks.

During their winter break most British and European theme parks invested tens of millions of pounds in new roller coasters and other developments. As they reopen and prepare for the influx of Easter visitors, they are convinced that, whatever the state of Euro Disney's finances, it has at least been a success in reviving interest in their own businesses.

Its popularity helped to increase the number of visitors to other European parks by 30 per cent last year, according to a new report from Tourism Research and Marketing, leisure consultants. Euro Disney itself is expected to have attracted between 20 million and 22 million visitors when the park, near Paris, celebrates its second anniversary next month.

Most competing parks, however, offer a day out for about two-thirds the price of the admission to Euro Disney — and these theme parks do not try to compete with Disney in the provision of loss-making hotel accommodation.

This month the English Tourist Board and 20 theme park operators will launch the "Year of the Roller Coaster". This reflects the extraordinary number of new white-knuckle rides being opened this summer. Blackpool pleasure beach will open its £12 million roller coaster, the tallest in the world, in late May.

Britain's most popular theme park, Alton Towers, reopens on Saturday after its winter break with what it claims is the first roller coaster in Europe that allows passengers to ride on the outside of the 360 degree loop (other roller coasters send riders inside the overhead loop). Called Nemesis, the £10 million ride officially opens on March 28.

Chessington World of Adventures, which, like Alton Towers, is owned by the Pearson Group, is opening a new attraction called Terrortomb on March 25. It emulates the film *Raiders of the Lost Ark* and seeks to scare passengers as they search for a lost emerald.

Thorpe Park, favoured by the Princess of Wales and her children, has £2.5 million worth of new attractions this year including a new themed area aimed at young children.

Continental parks with new attractions include Parc Astérix in France, some 25 miles north of Paris, which reopens on April 9 with a new roller coaster based on the flight of Icarus.

At Efteling, the Dutch theme park, the new attraction when the park reopens on March 31 will be "Dream Flight", which simulates a journey from the centre of the earth into space.

Already open at Futuroscope, the French park with a science theme, is the Pavillon de la Vienne, which houses a wall of more than 800 video screens depicting modern technology.

Euro Disney, which is shortly to be renamed Euro Disneyland, Paris, also has several new attractions ready for this summer, including the Nautilus submarine ride, a simulated journey under the North Pole. Euro Disney's next big attraction, however, will not start operating until 1995: Discovery Mountain, a roller coaster ride based on the popular Space Mountain in Walt Disney World in Florida.

Euro Disney faces another challenge next year when Pearson, through its Tussauds Group subsidiary, opens a theme park just outside Barcelona, on the site which Disney rejected in favour of Paris. Meanwhile British holidaymakers to Walt Disney World in Florida face new ticketing restrictions this summer as part of a clampdown against illegal ticket sales.

Many tourists who buy their tickets at the theme parks will now be unable to "park-hop" each day between the three main parks — Magic Kingdom, Epcot and the Disney/MGM studios — as they have done in previous years. Multi-park four and five-day admission tickets will in future be available only to holidaymakers staying in a Disney hotel or from a tour operator in advance.

Michelin man for Russia

BY ROBIN YOUNG

RUSSIA is to get its first taste of Michelin three-star eating this month when the French chef, Jean-Michel Lorain, launches what he calls "the renaissance of Russian cuisine" in the Restaurant Europe, the gourmet restaurant of the Grand Hotel Europe in St Petersburg.

Lorain, whose family's restaurant at La Côte St Jacques, Joigny, has three stars in Michelin and four *toques rouges* (19.5 out of 20) from Gault-Millau, has been recruited by the hotel to redesign its menus and to feature Russian food and cooking.

The Grand Hotel Europe, one of the oldest hotels in Russia and the first to be upgraded to five-star standard, reopened in December 1991 on Nevsky Prospekt, and in its first year, under the management of Reso Hotels of Sweden, boosted its budget by more than 50 per cent.

Almost nine-tenths of the hotel's guests are business customers, and a number of international firms and foreign consulates which have offices in the hotel represent more than 10 per cent of the hotel's occupancy.



Jean-Michel Lorain in St Petersburg

Lorain says: "In Russia you do not find goose liver, truffles, lobster or snails, but you do find beetroot, pearl barley, eels, and caviar." His dishes created from old recipes and research in the local market include eel in aspic, beetroot and lime confit, a cabbage soup with lamb ravioli and smetana, sea bass lightly smoked with sevruga caviar, and a borsch of pigeon and beef.

Before the launch two chefs from the Grand Hotel Europe and the maître d' of the Restaurant Europe, Dimitry Zachartchenko, visited Lorain's restaurant in France to work with him.

Swinging Lisbon

THE European golf tour swings back into action today with the first round of the Portuguese Open on the Penha Longa estate at Linhó, near Lisbon. *Russell Kempson writes.* Both venue and region are winning first-class reviews.

Peter Grace, product manager of Longshot Golf Holidays, based in Petersfield, Hampshire, says: "Lisbon has been a well-kept secret. It is a taste of real Portugal and has great repetition value."

Longshot offers seven nights at the five-star Hotel Palacio in Estoril, which includes flight, car hire and free play on its short yet demanding course from £349 per person. A golf "passport" for five courses in the area costs £92, and includes Quinta da Marinha at Cascais and the par-72 at Aroeira.

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Ferry companies sail into a bonanza

■ Cross-Channel ferry operators are making big profits from shoppers lured by duty-free on-board shopping. Eurotunnel counters that the regulations need to be reviewed

BY STEVE KEENAN

FERRY companies facing the challenge of the tunnel have opened a gold mine with their on-board supermarkets where cross-Channel shoppers can save up to 65 per cent on high street prices. An estimated 60,000 foot passengers — many on £1 standby tickets — are shopping en route to France, landing for a few minutes, then spending again on the return journey. In the past two months on its £1 promotion, Hoverspeed alone has carried 30,000 passengers, representing 25 per cent of the company's total revenue.

The flourishing trade is attracting the attention of the European Commission and Customs & Excise, which is losing millions in tax revenue.

The shopping craze began on January 1, 1993, when the European Union allowed trippers to buy duty-free goods, such as spirits and cigarettes, on the outbound *and* return journeys.

On January 1 this year, the EU doubled tax-free allowances for items, including perfume and cameras, to £72 for each leg of the journey. Now all three ferry companies on the prime Dover-Calais route, which accounts for 70 per cent of the cross-Channel traffic, are wooing shoppers with cheap deals.

Nick Stevens, a Hoverspeed spokesman, says: "The crossing of the Channel becomes immaterial. It is an alternative to the high street — the fact that people have to cross the Channel is by the bye."

The EU plans to phase out duty-free by 1999. But the ferry companies are not thinking that far ahead. "We are not thinking about the future," says Mr Stevens. "We are making hay while the sun shines."

P&O European Ferries carried 16,000 in January on £6 "cruises" between Dover and Calais. The biggest operator in the market is Stena Sealink, which offers shopping trips and entertainment cruises.

The EU stipulates that travellers must land to qualify for the double shopping bonanza. And they are closely watching ferry companies to ensure that people are offloaded. A P&O spokesman says: "We play by the book." This has led to the sight of shoppers struggling down gangways with their full out-bound quota of £71 worth of beer, two litres of wine, litre of spirits, 200 cigarettes and £72 worth of tax-free goods, then walking back up the ramps and buying the same amount of goods on the way home.

The spectacle has infuriated Eurotunnel, which is lobbying Brussels to withdraw the double tax-free allowance. Christopher Garnett, Eurotunnel's commercial director, says: "I am quite sure that is not what was intended to happen in the single market. It is making a mockery of the whole system."

Eurotunnel will have duty-free and tax-free oulets at both its Folkestone and Calais terminals. But Le Shuttle, the train service, has no capability for on-board sales. Mr Garnett says: "There is an acceptance in Brussels that what has happened was not meant to happen. The regulations were not thought through."

The shopping phenomenon is in addition to the day-trip market, whereby people take a car or van and spend a day in French shops buying cheap duty-paid goods, for which there is no limit — so long as they are for personal use. Last year, an estimated 1.6 million Britons took a day trip, double the number in 1992. A Customs & Excise report estimates the annual loss of tax revenue to the Exchequer in 1993 to be £180 million.

In an attempt to quantify the loss of tax revenue, C&E is due soon to publish a report on the duty-free market. Only the ferry companies know exact values — and they are not saying.

Barry Goddard, of the Duty-Free Confederation, says: "A lot of this is because the ferries are pre-empting the Channel tunnel. The ferry companies are really trying to get people used to the idea of crossing the Channel.

"It is a powerful new phenomenon. But I don't see any change in the market developing soon."

Although the ferry firms will not reveal how much the new market is worth to them, one ferry source estimated on-board spending by each adult passenger on shopping trips as £42. The floating shoppers are saving up to 65 per cent on UK retail prices. A bottle of Grant's whisky costs £7 on Hoverspeed, but £15.30 in the high street; and 24 cans of Foster's Export cost £9.50, compared with £30.07.

P&O last year sold a million bottles of scotch and 675,000 giant bars of Toblerone on board its ships. The company also shifted 2.4 million pounds of sausages in its restaurants.


RICHARD BAKER

Duty-free shopping on a cross-Channel ferry: many day-trippers spend only a few minutes in France before spending again on the ship

Sea still the way to go

BY DAVID HEWSON

AN economic and marketing study commissioned by Regie voor Maritiem Transport, Belgium's state-run operation which runs ferries and a Jetfoil servite between Ostend and the UK, shows they have apparently little to fear from the Channel tunnel.

According to Mr Evert de Pauw, passenger marketing and sales manager for the company, the tunnel is likely to prove more popular with business travellers who would otherwise fly than with holidaymakers. Leisure travellers, the company believes, are not interested in shaving a few hours off their journey and will prefer the facilities of super-ferries, such as cinemas and sophisticated shopping, to a train interior.

RMT's study forecasts serious traffic congestion in the Dover area with the decision by Stena Sealink and P&O to concentrate their ferry operations on the Dover-Calais route. This was one of the reasons, says Mr de Pauw, why RMT switched its UK operations from P&O at Dover to the Scandinavian Sally Lines at Ramsgate.

Last year the Ostend ferries and Jetfoils carried two million foot passengers and more than 300,000 cars. The ferry journey takes four hours, the Jetfoil (foot passengers only) one hour and 20 minutes.

Michelin man for Russia

BY ROBIN YOUNG

RUSSIA is to get its first taste of Michelin three star eating this month when the French chef Jean-Michel Lorain launches what he calls "the renaissance of Russian cuisine" in the Restaurant Europe, the gourmet restaurant of the Grand Hotel Europe in St Petersburg.

Lorain, whose family's restaurant at La Côte St Jacques, Joigny, has three stars in Michelin and four toques rouges (19.5 out of 20 from Gault-Millau) has been recruited by the hotel to redesign its menus and to feature Russian food and cooking.

The Grand Hotel Europe, one of the oldest hotels in Russia and the first to be upgraded to five-star standard, re-opened in December 1991 on Nevsky Prospekt, and in its first year, under the management of Reso Hotels of Sweden, boosted its budget by more than 50 per cent.

Almost nine-tenths of the hotel's guests are business customers, and


Jean-Michel Lorain in St Petersburg

a number of international firms and foreign consulates which have offices in the hotel represent more than 10 per cent of the hotel's occupancy.

Lorain says: "In Russia you do not find goose liver, truffles, lobster or snails, but you do find beetroot, pearl barley, eels, and sugar." His dishes are created from old recipes and research in the local market include red cabbage soup with lamb ragout and smetana ice (a sour cream ice) has boldly experimented with sausages, sour cream and bread.

Before the Lorain era chefs from the Grand Hotel Europe used to make a point of visiting the Kremlin and Europe Hotel Restaurant to watch the performance of their colleagues in France to see what was

Airline hits out

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT

BRITISH and French government ministers were warned this week that any attempt to bail out either the financially troubled state-owned railways, or the Channel tunnel could lead to legal action.

Sir Michael Bishop, chairman of British Midland and a leading campaigner against European state subsidies, said the tunnel had cost the equivalent of 60 Boeing 747-400 jumbo jets. "Given the earning capacity of this size of fleet of aircraft, there will be an understandably strong reaction from the airlines if the Channel tunnel project were to find itself in financial difficulties and the operators be so rash as to suggest state aid as a remedy," he said.

Sir Michael added that rail fares should also, under EU legislation, reflect the true cost of operation. "We shall devote as much time in Brussels to predatory action by surface transportation companies and their fares as we now commit to unfair competition in the airline sector," he said.

He was scathing about the inconsistency of the way European rules were imposed on different countries.

"In Europe the law or directive is not what it appears," he said. "It can be negotiated, compromised or just ignored. As a consequence, a number of my European competitors would, but for the subvention of their governments, be lucrative clients for the insolvency departments of a major firm of accountants."

British Midland, he said, had invested heavily in the hope of bring increased competition to Europe's busiest air routes, but discovered that legislation enacted to ensure fair competition was totally ineffective.

He said: "We have been brought into these markets under quite false guidelines and are entitled to have community law upheld in our favour."

Despite the obduracy of some governments within the EU, British Midland expects to increase its activities in Europe. Five years ago, the airline earned less than 20 per cent of its revenues in continental Europe, but last year it reached 50 per cent and in five years could be 75 per cent.

Royal Prague

THE Prague Heritage Fund, in association with Tania Illingsworth (née Tolstoy) and Abercrombie and Kent (071-730 9600), has organised a four-day musical festival, hosted jointly by the Prince of Wales and President Havel, to help restore the historic city. The three-day tour from June 3-5 including return flights, accommodation, tours, concerts (with Sir Georg Solti), reception, gala dinner and guide costs £815; a five-day tour from June 2-6 costs £1,092. Each person booking must, however, also agree to give at least £1,000 to the fund.

Cosmos soars

☐ Cosmos, part of the Cosmos group which includes Avro and Monarch Airlines, is reporting 100 per cent growth over the past two years, and now carries more than 1.5 million passengers annually.

Travel is edited by Harvey Elliott

Manx united

BY HARVEY ELLIOTT

MANX Airlines will this month become the biggest regional air carrier in Europe, flying on 70 separate routes and carrying 1.5 million passengers a year. The airline, wholly owned by Airlines of Britain, is doubling the number of services flown from its five "hub" airports, mainly in the west of Britain.

Many of its routes and planes are being handed over by Loganair, its sister airline. Both airlines have grown consistently over the past ten years and some of their operations were clashing. They had a combined turnover of more than £100 million a year. It was decided to double Manx's size by handing over routes operated by Loganair from Manchester and Southampton and further developing the Cardiff base.

By next month, the airline will be the only British airline operating to every country in the British Isles and will have more routes from Ireland than any other carrier.

The airline uses an all-British fleet of 24 aircraft..


BAe 146 of the expanding Manx Airlines in Europe livery

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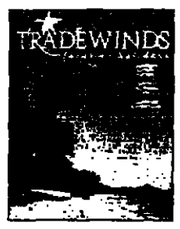
AIR PORTUGAL
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"I suppose this is about as far away from a budget planning meeting as you can get."

The only spreadsheets I'll be seeing over the next two weeks will be the ones on the bed in my air conditioned room. The only breakfast conferences will be to discuss whether to go sightseeing or swimming. And as for cutting this year's spending, I've got that covered thanks to Tradewinds.

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NEWS

Ruling on smacking denounced

■ Outraged children's organisations demanded a change in the law after the High Court ruled that a childminder had the right to smack boys and girls in her care.

The ruling means that local councils that impose a "no smacking" policy in registering child minders — and more than 90 per cent do — could be open to challenge in magistrates' courts. Mr Justice Wilson endorsed the magistrates' decision to overrule the London borough of Sutton .....Page 1

SAS operating inside besieged town

■ A detachment of British special forces, believed to be from the SAS, is operating inside the besieged town of Maglaj in northern Bosnia, in preparation for the next confrontation between the Serbs and the UN commander.....Pages 1, 10

Clarke optimistic

Kenneth Clarke, buoyed by a sharp drop in unemployment, brushed aside disappointing retail sales figures to insist that the economy was climbing steadily out of the recession ..... Page 1

Helpline costs

The 25 calls made every day to the Citizen's Charter telephone helpline cost the taxpayer £68 each. Nearly £500,000 has been spent on the helpline since it was set up ..... Page 9

Hurd plea to MPs

Douglas Hurd was trying to prepare Conservative MPs for a deal on European Union voting rights after warning them that failure to get agreement could mean the Government's aim of a wider Europe collapsing .....Page 2

Clinton's peace bid

President Clinton met Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Prime Minister, at the White House as the US intensified its efforts to restart Israeli-Palestinian negotiations after the Hebron mosque massacre..... Page 12

Ban on car thieves

Convicted car thieves may be banned from entering the New Forest if the Forestry Commission adopts a plan to use High Court injunctions .....Page 3

Tiger kills newsman

A flying ark took 31 starving animals from Angola to Johannesburg, hours after a TV cameraman was mauled to death by a tiger during the rescue mission ..... Page 12

Appeal considered

The Attorney-General may appeal against a five-year jail term imposed on a shoplifter for killing a schoolboy assistant who chased him from a supermarket.. Page 5

Nuclear fears

Inspectors investigating North Korea's nuclear programme were prevented from taking samples, raising suspicions that a bomb is being developed .....Page 11

Bridge too far

Thirteen years after it was hailed as the great white hope of a depressed region, the Humber Bridge has become a great white elephant, losing money at the rate of £1.42 a second.....Page 7

Bellow of protest

Saul Bellow, the American author, is the latest cultural icon to find himself hauled up by what he calls "thought police" over political correctness ..... Page 12

Drug rationed

A hospital in London is rationing a drug that helps premature babies to breathe because it is too expensive .....Page 4

D-Day dispute

A dispute over German efforts to take part in D-Day celebrations has flared into a Franco-German row..... Page 13

Ban on Healey 'Thresher' commercial

■ A television commercial making fun of Norman Lamont's embarrassment over alleged credit card bills has been banned after the former Chancellor complained to the Independedent Television Commission. The Visa Delta commercial features Denis Healey, another former Chancellor, passing a branch of the off-licence chain Thresher's ..... Page 2

BARRY BATCHELOR



Graham Roach, owner of Viking Flagship, receiving the Queen Mother Champion Chase Cup at Cheltenham. Reports, pages 38 and 39

Pensions: New rules for pension fund trustees were proposed by MPs in the wake of the Robert Maxwell scandal. Trustees should include at least one pensioner and, ideally, should all undergo training.....Page 23

Banking: Schroders unveiled an 85 per cent leap in pre-tax profits to £195.8 million and revealed the value of its secret reserves.....Page 23

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index fell 24.5 points to close at 3,242.9. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 80.7 to 80.5 after a rise from $1.4914 to $1.4918 but a fall from DM2.5306 to DM2.5223....Page 26

Cricket: The second Test match against West Indies starts this morning and England, if anything, are less prepared for it than they were after losing in Jamaica three weeks ago..... Page 44

Football: Welsh football was thrown into disarray with the resignation of John Toshack 48 days after he was appointed manager of the national team.....Page 42

Rugby union: David Pears, England's full back against Wales at Twickenham on Saturday, missed training because of a strained hamstring but is expected to be fit enough to play.....Page 41

Happy answer: Lonely hearts columns offering bliss with a foreign mail-order bride may once have smacked of sex slavery. These days, Joe Joseph reports, men can be in for quite a surprise.....Page 14

Old war: Is the role of cholesterol in heart disease absolutely crucial or profoundly trivial? Dr James Le Fanu on cholesterol and the elderly.....Page 15

The story factory: Ian McIntyre on Roald Dahl's subversive genius and Peter Ackroyd on John Steinbeck..... Pages 36, 37

Chile encounter: A starry cast, including Jeremy Irons and Meryl Streep, cannot do much to rescue this week's big new film: *The House of the Spirits*, based on Isabel Allende's saga of a family in Chile.....Page 33

Two tenors: At the Albert Hall Jose Carreras paid tribute to Mario Lanza, with a concert that included items from Lanza's most famous films.....Page 34

Prison drama: BBC Radio 4 is to broadcast a play written by two inmates of Strangeways Prison, featuring a star of the television soap, *Brookside*.....Page 35

Dorothy from Soweto, a nurse by profession and a ballroom dancer in her spare time, features in the first of six films about ordinary South Africans. *Beloved Country* (BBC2, 9.30pm).....Page 43

Private functions

The Chancellor must back the private finance panel in all its tussles with the Treasury..... Page 17

State of the Unionists

If the Unionists decline to fill the vacuum left by the Government since it relegated the declaration from peace plan to "permanency", Sinn Fein is sure to..... Page 17

Some like it in Acrylic

Art is too humane an activity to be reserved as the monopoly of professionals, and too slippery to be so confined..... Page 17

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

In terms of British constitutional history, the European situation resembles that before 1832, when a handful of voters in a few rotten boroughs could outvote the largest cities in the country..... Page 16

ROGER BOYES

Germany's Green party still operates as a protest group. As a governing party it would have huge potential for havoc..... Page 16

Denis Hall Rooney, chairman of the National Nuclear Corporation; **Jack Hargreaves**, television broadcaster; **Philippe Daudy**, secretary of the French section of the Franco-British Council; **Captain Anthony Fleming**, SAS officer.....Page 19

Telling the truth in Parliament.....Page 17

It is foolish to think that good science (evidence of the "gay gene") will abolish homophobia. Skin colour and gender obviously are governed by genetics but that has not wiped out racism and sexism

— Los Angeles Times

An IRA that had a regard for the democratic process would now be putting aside terrorism and embracing the new [peace] initiative

— The Washington Post

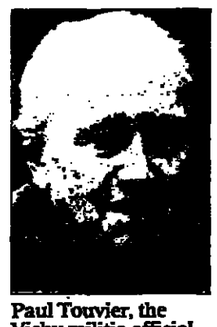
PEOPLE IN THE



The Marquess of Blandford, who failed to halt a High Court action designed to prevent his gaining control over Blenheim Palace
Pages 1, 3



Helen Mirren, the actress, was among the stars launching a campaign for greater investment in the British film industry
Page 6



Paul Touvier, the Vichy militia official who goes on trial in France today accused of complicity in crimes against humanity
Page 13

THE TIMES TOMORROW

The hasty rebirth of punk

■ Memories of Johnny Rotten in his Seventies heyday are being evoked by a new wave of neo-punk groups. Has history turned full circle so soon?

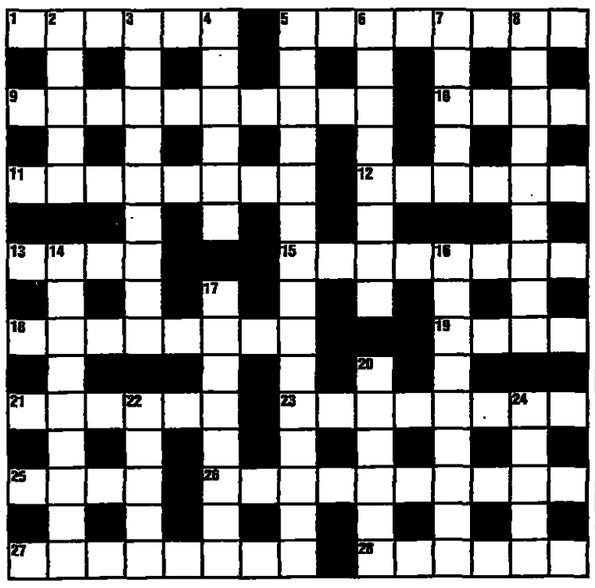
The mouse that roars away

■ When is a mouse not a rodent but a classic sports car? Geof Wheelwright reports on the gimmicks to keep computer users amused

Bridging the cultural gulf

■ Are we still the nation of the two cultures? Nigel Hawkes previews a nationwide attempt to bring science to life

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,492



ACROSS

1 Telephoned after the odds leapt up (6).
5 A number go into church for a short piece of music (8).
9 Mr. Chipping is such a proficient one (4,6).
10 One who is worthy of a woman's love (4).
11 Insignificant person carried by low flier (8).
12 Told stories from any Red source (6).
13 Bacchante heard in the mountain (4).
15 It makes oil exporters, among other things, lose their hair! (8).
18 The king sounds ill — it must be the fish (8).
19 Pole position (4).
21 ' "Is it weakness of intellect _____ ?" I cried' (*Mikado*) (6).
23 One apt to shout out in court (8).
25 Service returned — love game (4).
26 One gives ear to rebeck, perhaps — it's got a difficult passage ahead (3-7).
27 For example, a Chinaman's way of speaking (8).
28 Personal property includes uncommon tea-set (6).

DOWN

2 Move up mountain to find philosopher (5).
3 Scottish hero opposed to disinterring king from excavation (9).
4 In a foreign gaol, that's the keeper (6).
5 Where one might expect to see the gods of the people? (8,7).
6 A modern aid to childbearing (8).
7 Schoolmaster who lost his house (5).
8 The charges for accommodation here are very small (9).
14 Injured miner in gallery is cut off (9).
16 A man may be so taken with his first move (2,7).
17 If upset, stay in home (8).
20 Right of admission to the course (6).
22 Girl roasting in Indian garment (5).
24 Proficient in a small branch (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,491

D	E	M	U	R	E	L	Y		S	W	A	T	H	E
O		A		H		O		A		A		R		Y
M	A	R	C	O		N	I	G	H	T	M	A	R	E
I		R		M		G		R		C		I		L
C	L	I	M	B	A	B	L	E		H	I	N	G	E
I		A			O		E		W			T		
L	E	G	S	H	O	W		D	R	O	W	S	E	
E		E		I			R		E		S			
	T	S	O	B	A	R		C	A	D	E	N	C	E
C			E		E		O			T		V		
L	I	F	E	R		P	U	N	C	H	L	I	N	E
O		I		N	A	C		A		E		R		
V	A	N	D	A	L	I	S	E		V	E	N	U	E
E		A		T		R		A		E		C		S
R	E	L	I	E	F		P	L	A	N	G	E	N	T

Times Two Crossword, page 44

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Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereids & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheap rate) and 48p per minute at all other times.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Bournemouth, Dorset 15C (58F); lowest day max: Aultbea, Highland 3C (37F); highest rainfall: Capel Curig, Gwynedd 0.87in; highest sunshine: Aberdeen, Grampian 9.3hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General situation:** Southwest England will turn cloudy with rain during the morning. The rain will continue across Wales and much of southern England during the day. However, southeast England and East Anglia will be quite sunny for much of the time, with rain not expected until evening. Northern England may have a few showers, perhaps with some sleet or snow on the hills.

Scotland and Northern Ireland can expect another cold day with wintry showers. Further heavy snow is likely over the Scottish mountains but the weather should slowly improve with showers dying away.

☐ **London, S E England, E Anglia:** some sunshine, cloudy later with rain during the evening. Wind west, moderate becoming light. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Central S England, E and W Midlands, N Wales:** fine start, then cloudier later with rain by the end of the day. Wind west, moderate becoming light. Max 9C (48F).

☐ **E England, N W England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England:** mainly dry with some sunshine, turning cloudy later. Wind west fresh, becoming moderate. Max 8C (46F).

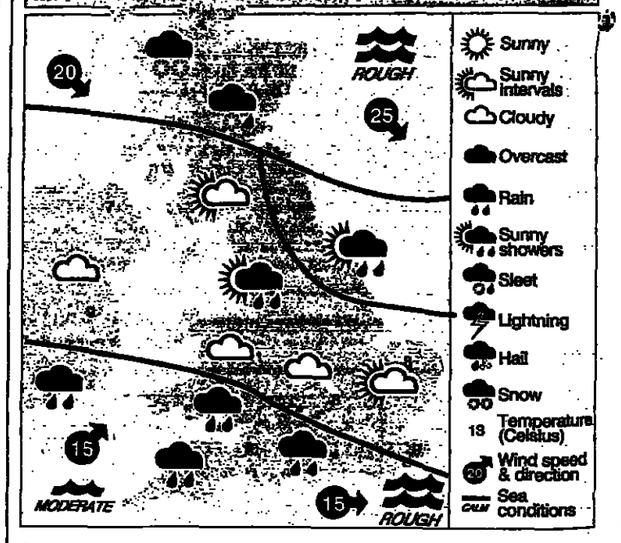
☐ **Channel Isles, S W England, S Wales:** patchy rain, turning more persistent later. Wind northwest backing southwest, moderate or fresh. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **N E England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, S W Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland:** sunny periods and some showers. Wind west, moderate or fresh. Max 7C (45F).

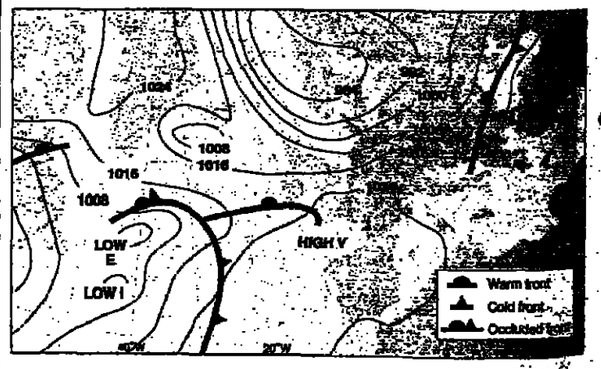
☐ **Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, N E Scotland, Argyll, N W Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** sunny intervals and showers. Wind northwest fresh, becoming moderate. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Outlook:** showery in the north, dull and wet in the south.

NOON TODAY



Changes to the chart below from noon: Low I will become absorbed by low E and maintain its central pressure as it drifts east. High V will remain in situ



MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain; h=hail; du=dull; g=gale; sh=shower; b=bright

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	9.3	-	9	48	s	London	3.5	X	13	55	sh
Anglesey	4.8	0.40	10	50	h	Lowestoft	2.0	0.29	10	50	sh
Aspatria	3.0	0.06	7	45	h	Manchester	5.5	0.23	9	48	sh
Aviemore	6.2	0.03	5	41	sn	Margate	1.8	0.31	13	55	sh
Belfast	6.2	0.06	8	46	h	Minehead	5.7	0.12	11	52	s
Birmingham	5.0	0.46	11	52	sh	Morecambe	5.7	0.13	8	46	sh
Bognor R	3.8	0.08	13	55	r	Newcastle	7.1	0.05	8	46	sh
Bournem'th	3.4	0.02	15	59	b	Newquay	X				
Bristol	3.8	0.16	13	55	s	Norwich	2.9	0.50	10	50	sh
Buxton	4.5	0.37	6	43	s	Nottingham	4.6	0.20	9	48	h
Cardiff	6.7	0.22	11	52	sh	Penzance	5.7	0.06	12	54	s
Clacton	0.3	0.23	11	52	r	Plymouth	4.2	0.08	11	52	s
Cleethorpes	X					Poole	3.4	0.02	15	59	b
Colwyn Bay	4.9	0.54	8	46	s	Ross-o-wye	5.6	0.08	12	54	s
Cromer	4.0	0.59	9	48	b	Ryde	X				
Eastbourne	1.7	0.12	11	52	r	Salcombe	5.1	0.05	13	55	s
Edinburgh	8.3	0.04	8	46	sh	Sandown	2.7	0.06	12	54	b
Eskdalemuir	5.0	0.20	6	43	sn	Saunton Snd	2.6	0.13	11	52	d
Exmouth	3.6	-	12	54	b	Scarboro'	3.1	0.01	9	48	b
Falmouth	X	0.04	11	52	s	Scilly Isles	5.8	-	11	52	s
Folkestone	1.9	0.11	12	54	r	Shanklin	X	0.07	12	54	s
Glasgow	5.9	0.09	7	45	h	Skegness	3.4	0.39	10	50	sh
Guernsey	3.3	-	13	55	b	Southend	X				
Hastings	1.5	0.13	12	54	r	Southport	4.9	0.20	8	46	s
Hayling I	X					Southsea	2.8	0.04	13	55	r
Herne Bay	2.4	0.04	13	55	sh	Stornoway	4.6	0.21	5	41	sn
Hove	2.2	0.05	14	57	b	Swanage	2.9	0.04	13	55	b
Hunstanton	4.7	0.41	9	48	sh	Teignmouth	5.0	-	13	55	s
Isle of Man	6.1	0.12	9	48	sh	Tenby	6.1	0.10	11	52	s
Jersey	6.7	0.02	12	54	d	Tiree	6.1	0.08	7	45	sn
Kinloss	6.1	0.02	6	43	sl	Torquay	5.8	-	14	57	s
Leeds	5.4	0.02	10	50	sh	Tynemouth	5.6	0.02	8	46	s
Lerwick	1.6	0.14	4	39	sn	Ventnor	2.7	0.07	11	52	r
Lauchars	8.6	-	9	48	sh	West-s-mare	5.5	0.19	11	52	s
Littlehmptn	3.4	-	14	57	b	Weymouth	3.5	0.02	12	54	r
Liverpool	5.0	0.29	7	45	sh	These are Tuesday's figures					

ABROAD

Ajaccio	16	61	f	Corfu	15	59	f	Malorca	16	61	f
Akrotiri	17	63	s	Dublin	5	41	s	Malaga	19	66	s
Alex'dria	19	66	f	Dubrovnik	18	61	f	Malta	15	59	f
Algiers	17	63	s	Faro	20	68	s	Melb'rne	16	61	c
Amst'dm	8	46	f	Florence	18	64	f	Mexico C	21	70	f
Athens	17	63	s	Frankfurt	7	45	c	Miami	24	75	s
Bahrain	16	64	r	Funchal	18	64	s	Milan	18	64	s
Bangkok	34	93	f	Geneva	11	52	c	Montreal	3	37	r
Barbados	29	84	f	Gibraltar	17	63	s	Moscow	1	34	c
Barcelona	16	61	f	Helsinki	1	34	f	Munich	7	45	c
Beirut	17	63	f	Hong K	20	68	s	Nairobi	28	82	f
Belgrade	15	59	t	Innsbruk	9	46	f	Naples	16	61	f
Berlin	7	46	f	Istanbul	16	64	s	N York	10	50	f
Biarritz	12	54	c	Jeddah	26	79	s	Nice	15	59	c
Borde'x	13	55	c	Jo'burg	22	72	f	Oslo	4	39	s
Brussels	7	45	c	Karachi	35	95	s	Paris	10	50	f
Budapest	12	54	s	L Palmas	20	68	s	Peking	10	50	s
B Aires	26	79	f	La Tquet	9	48	f	Perth	31	88	s
Cairo	20	68	s	Lisbon	19	66	s	Prague	8	46	f
Capo Tn	28	82	s	Locarno	20	68	s	Reykjavik	-2	28	c
Chicago	7	45	c	L Angeles	22	72	s	Rhodes	19	66	s
Ch'church	21	70	f	Luxembg	5	41	c	Rio de J	30	86	f
Cologne	8	46	f	Luxor	23	73	s	Riyadh	22	72	s
C'phagn	1	34	h	Madrid	19	66	s	Rome	16	61	f

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Salzburg	7	45	f		
S F'isco	14	57	s		
Santiago	22	72	s		
S Paulo	26	79	c		
Seoul	8	46	c		
Sing'por	26	79	r		
Stkholm	3	37	f		
Straab'rg	9	48	c		
Sydney	25	77	f		
Tangier	18	66	s		
Tel Aviv	18	64	f		
Tenerife	19	66	f		
Tokyo	11	52	f		
Toronto	4	39	c		
Tunis	17	63	f		
Valencia	19	66	s		
Vanc'ver	9	48	r		
Venice	14	57	f		
Vienna	8	46	r		
Warsaw	4	39	c		
Wash'ton	12	54	c		
Wellington	21	70	c		
Zurich	7	45	c		

X = not available

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4.27	6.90	4.47	6.84	Liverpool	1.37	8.71	1.57	8.64
Aberdeen	3.57	3.86	4.14	3.87	Lowestoft	—	—	12.19	2.27
Avonmouth	9.47	12.08	9.56	11.89	Margate	2.27	4.56	2.45	4.45
Belfast	1.35	3.36	1.52	3.29	Milford Haven	8.52	8.33	9.04	8.17
Cardiff	9.32	11.22	9.41	11.05	Newquay	7 44	6.4	7.57	8.2
Devonport	8.21	8.0	8.36	4.9	Oban	8.14	3.6	8.19	3.8
Dover	1.20	6.30	1.35	6.08	Penzance	7.25	5.1	7.41	4.9
Falmouth	7.51	4.8	8.08	4.7	Portland	9.13	1.7	9.22	1.7
Glasgow	3.22	4.7	3.51	4.6	Portsmouth	1.49	4.5	2.09	4.4
Harwich	2.17	3.79	2.35	3.87	Shoreham	1.34	5.74	1.49	5.54
Holyhead	12.46	5.12	1.04	5.08	Southampton	1.16	4.27	1.34	4.16
Hull	8.55	6.87	9.12	6.88	Swansea	8.49	8.57	9.05	8.39
Ilfracombe	8.33	8.56	8.44	8.21	Tees	6.19	4.86	6.34	4.90
King's Lynn	8.58	6.0	9.11	6.0	Wilton-on-Nze	2.13	4.03	2.30	3.90
Leith	5.24	4.99	5.42	5.99					

Sun rises: 6.11 am
Sun sets: 6.08 pm
Moon sets 11.54 pm
Moon rises 7.59 am

London 6.08 pm to 6.11 am
Bristol 6.18 pm to 6.21 am
Edinburgh 6.20 pm to 6.24 am
Manchester 6.16 pm to 6.20 am
Penzance 6.30 pm to 6.32 am.

First quarter March 20

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ANATOLE KALETSKY 27

Why interest rates will rise and fall at the same time



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Meryl Streep in soggy saga of a high-class soap



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Welsh football in turmoil as Toshack quits

WOODROW WYATT ON MICHAEL FOOT
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THE TIMES

THURSDAY MARCH 17 1994

Fall in jobless tally resumes after January surprise

BY PHILIP BASSETT
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

EMPLOYMENT is growing, government figures showed yesterday as the number of jobless fell by 38,800, restoring the downward trend in unemployment. Fears that January's surprise rise in unemployment would be repeated proved groundless, but that rise was revised upwards, from an estimate of 15,500 to a final 19,800, after new seasonal adjustment calculations.

Unadjusted unemployment fell by 47,855 to 2,841,413 in February. Adjusted unemployment fell for both men and women, and in every region, to its lowest overall level since June 1992. The decline takes to 219,900 the fall in the number of people out of work since the decline began in December 1992. Although the latest fall in unemployment is significant, ministers emphasised the increase in employment in the three months to December shown by figures released yesterday. The workforce in employment rose by 15,000, to just over 25 million. Though these figures can be erratic, Whitehall officials are satisfied, because the increase is the third quarterly rise in succession, that new jobs are now being created.

This is the first time there have been three successive quarters of rising unemployment since the start of the recession in December 1990.

Occupationally, service jobs saw the largest rise, with the service sector up overall by 24,000.

However, details of the figures prompted greater concern among labour market analysts. The actual number of employees in employment fell by 53,000, though the number of self-employed went up by 54,000 and those on government training programmes by 22,000.

Although the figures seemed to indicate that all the growth was in full-time work — running counter to arguments about greater labour flexibility that the Government advanced at the G7 summit — separate figures from the quarterly Labour Force Survey, compiled in a different way, cast doubt on them.

Though applying to a slightly earlier timespan, the LFS figures seemed to point to contradictory conclusions on employees in employment, self-employment, workforce size and full- and part-time working, which Whitehall officials were unable to explain — though the two sets may show that the labour market is still volatile, with figures churning over at a high rate.

Some labour market specialists were suggesting that, if correct, the new growth in full-time employment might be further evidence of economic recovery, as employers grow more confident about their businesses and are ready to move on from hiring part-timers to taking on full-time employees.

The stock of new job vacancies at JobCentres virtually stood still, with the increase of just 400 taking it to the highest level since October 1990.

Increases in average earnings are starting to give worrying indications for the Government. The underlying rate of increase rose from 3 per cent in November to a revised figure of 3.25 per cent in December and January.

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS TODAY

ON THE ROAD

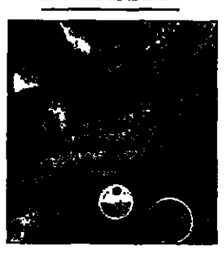


Marley believes the recession is over and is encouraged by the rise in house building and forecasts from big builders
Page 28, Tempus 27

CHOSEN PATH

The spring rush of new companies seeking a listing on the stock market continues apace with a £62.5 million flotation announced
Page 26

BY-PASSED



Coats Viyella, the textiles group, is looking at the Third World for growth opportunities because of weakness elsewhere
Page 25, Tempus 27

HIGHWAY

BT has invented a device that dramatically increases the capacity of fibre optic cables and helps develop superhighways
Page 24

Tax worries cause slump in high street

BY JANET BUSH AND SUSAN GILCHRIST

■ **Retailers say consumers are reluctant to buy big ticket items because they do not know how much worse off they are going to be from next month because of tax increases**

SALES on Britain's high streets slumped in February, supporting a growing suspicion that consumers are reining back spending before April's tax increases, and casting doubt on whether the recovery can maintain its already modest momentum.

The 0.5 per cent sales fall, much worse than the City had expected, was offset by an upwardly revised 0.9 per cent rise in January, according to yesterday's figures from the Central Statistical Office. However, a breakdown of the February figures shows that, apart from food — prices of which have been extremely competitive because of supermarket price wars — sales were weak.

Areas of discretionary spending, such as household goods, fell by 1.6 per cent and clothing and footwear were also clearly down. Sales in the three months to February were 0.6 per cent higher than in the previous three, but the annual rate of sales growth fell to 2.5 per cent, from 3.7 per cent in January.

Simon Briscoe, UK economist at SG Warburg, said the figures, coming before tax increases took effect, would worry the Government. "These figures will scare the Government into a further base rate cut," he said.

The British Retail Consortium, which represents retailers, put a positive gloss on the figures, summing them up as "less up but not down". Hugh Clark, the trading policy director, said: "The results for February show some prudent cutting back by consumers, not any dramatic reversal of fortunes." Nevertheless, the body repeated its call for the Government to cut interest rates again and give consumer spending an added boost.

Retailers expressed concern about the impact of tax increases. Derek Hunt, the chairman of MFI, Britain's biggest furniture retailer, said consumers were still reluctant to buy big-ticket items. He blamed impending tax rises: "We are facing tax increases of a size we have not seen for years, and they are getting a lot of publicity. The situation is made worse by the fact that consumers don't really know how much worse off they are going to be. It is the uncertainty that is the problem."

However, Mr Hunt and Kevin Hawkins, the corporate affairs director of WH Smith, believe spending will bounce back once the tax increases have been implemented. "By June or July, we believe there could be a reasonable rebound in consumer spending," Mr Hawkins said.

Richard Dixon, of Storehouse, the BhS to Mothercare group, attributes February's weakness in consumer spending to the weather. "Clothing retailers are trying to sell their spring ranges, which is rather difficult to do when customers have to wade through six inches of snow to get to your store." He said Storehouse took a cautious view of the economy's health, though he believed that spending by younger consumers, often burdened with heavy mortgage commitments, was more affected by interest rates than by tax increases.

Contrasting with yesterday's retail sales figures, which do not include the motor trade, were figures from HPI, the credit information company, showing that February's new car sales using credit finance were 34.1 per cent up on a year ago. This backs up last week's positive car sales figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders and the CBI's distributive trades survey, which pointed to buoyant car trade.

Also released yesterday were February government borrowing figures. These showed a much lower public sector borrowing requirement than the City had expected and suggested that the Government's projection of a £50 billion PSBR this year will be undershot.

The Government borrowed £4.6 billion in February, taking the total for the first 11 months of the fiscal year to £34.7 billion. This compares with £27 billion at the same stage last year.

Gilts fall, page 24
Pennington, page 25
Economic View, page 27

ROBIN MAYES



Best foot forward: John Church, whose shoemaking company's profits soared 70 per cent

Pension findings attacked

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE pension industry and consumer groups yesterday criticised as inadequate conclusions of the Commons Social Security Committee report on pensions after the Robert Maxwell affair.

The MPs' recommendation that trustees undergo training — at an estimated cost of £500 for a two-day introductory course — was criticised for not extending to very small schemes, said to have some of the worst standards.

Penny Webster, at Bacon & Woodrow, the consultants, said: "Training should be mandatory for all trustees. Some of the worst cases of fraud and misuse of pension money comes from the smallest pension schemes."

The National Association of Pension Funds, which covers seven million employees and has £250 billion of funds under management, said: "We believe compulsory training has a vital role."

David Shaw, a Conservative member of the committee, said: "It was never our intention to exclude small pension schemes from the training courses. What we had in mind was the smallest of schemes which are run and managed by directors for themselves. Any other schemes — even ones with, say, just 20 members — should have trained trustees."

It was hoped that universities and colleges would provide cheap training, he said.

Schroders staff to share up to £20m bonus

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT



Mallinckrodt: confident

SCHRODERS, the international merchant and investment bank based in London, unveiled an 85 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £195.8 million, while breaking down profit by division and disclosing the value of its inner reserves for the first time.

As a result of the strong profits performance, George Mallinckrodt, the chairman, said that about 1,000 executive staff who take part in a discretionary bonus scheme will share bonus payments worth a total of between £15 million and £20 million. But he said there will be no US investment bank-style seven-figure bonuses.

The dividend for the year has been raised by 50 per cent to 16.5p, demonstrating confidence in prospects, Mr Mallinckrodt said. For the past five years, Schroders has increased the dividend by an average of 20 per cent. Earnings were 102 per cent higher at 109.2p a share. Mr Mallinckrodt said opportunities for the bank this year were very considerable.

Under EC rules, merchant banks must reveal their inner reserves from this year. Schroders' inner reserves totalled £101.6 million, of which £18 million has been designated as a general provision for contingencies and the balance has been released. The effect of the comparative results for 1992 is to increase the profit after tax and transfers to inner reserves from £64 million to £69.6 million. As a result of the release of inner reserves, and the increase in earnings, shareholders' funds grew 24 per cent to £674.5 million, or 523p a share.

Mr Mallinckrodt said all eight of the bank's businesses, which fit into two profit categories, performed well. Profits from merchant and investment banking rose 84.6 per cent to £139 million. Fund management profits were 88 per cent higher at £56.8 million. Dealing income almost doubled from £31.5 million to £61.5 million and income from fees and commissions rose from £213.3 million to £302.2 million. The shares rose 80p to 1170p.

Tempus, page 27

Church results shine

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

CHURCH & Co, the English shoemaker, put a spring in its step yesterday by reporting a 70 per cent increase in profits.

The company, which has been selling shoes to the well-heeled since 1873, saw pre-tax profits rise from £1.9 million to £3.2 million for the year to December 31.

John Church, the chairman, said the improvement in the company's fortunes was driven by a strong performance from the British retail operations. The picture was less encouraging elsewhere, he added, with losses in North America and France.

Mr Church said 1993 had been "a year of consolidation". Rationalisation of the retail operation continued with the closure of unprofitable stores. However, he said the company was now in a position to take advantage of the better terms being offered for retail sites.

A new Church store is scheduled to open in Regent Street in London's West End next month.

A final dividend of 10p (9.5p) brings the total for the year to 13p (12.5p), an increase of 4 per cent.

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-0.0083

US $
1.4918
+0.0004

GOLD

BRENT CRUDE

$13.60 per barrel (May)
6pm

LONDON CLOSING PRICES — MARKETS IN DETAIL, PAGE 28, SHARE PRICES PAGE 31

Barclays holds enquiry into credit scoring leak

BY PATRICIA TEHAN
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

BARCLAYS Bank yesterday launched an investigation into how one of its most closely guarded secrets — how it grades customers when they apply for a loan — turned up on a computer bulletin board.

A Barclays spokesman said the loan scoring system, which was at least a year out of date, belonged to one of its subsidiaries, Mercantile Credit, which provides consumer loans, mostly car finance, not from Barclaycard as had been suggested.

Barclays was clearly embarrassed by the leak and by suggestions that customers could use the information to lie about their personal details in order to achieve a higher credit score and obtain a loan.

The leak is understood to have come from a staff member, demoralised by the bank's job reduction programme.

The leak followed Barclays' decision to make 432 branch staff in London and the South East compulsorily redundant last week as part of a wider programme of job cuts. Unions have been pushing for voluntary redundancies.

Britain's high street banks condemned the move as "irresponsible" as it could enable people who were not able to repay a loan nevertheless to get one.

The banks say the scoring system is not the only factor considered when customers apply for loans. The Barclays spokesman said the leaked score card bore "similarities to one used a year or two ago by Mercantile Credit". However, he said it was obsolete and added: "Anybody who is relying on that scorecard to try to lie their way into getting a loan is not going to get anywhere."

The high level of bad debts suffered by the banks during the past few years has forced them to look closely at their lending procedures.

Their scoring is based on their lending experience and are updated regularly, usually every month. They look for indicators of stability. For instance, they have found that people with a home phone are more reliable when it comes to repaying a loan than those without. Home owners get a higher grading than those living in rented accommodation or with their parents. Older customers tend to be more financially secure.

Customers applying for a loan would also be checked out with a credit reference agency.

Margot Norman, page 14

Gilts fall despite hopes of rate cut

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A POOR performance by the gilt-edged market disappointed dealers and investors who hoped that modest economic growth and low inflation would allow the UK bond market to decouple from the key US market. The latter was thrown into chaos by the Federal Reserve's recent signal of higher interest rates.

Yesterday saw a decoupling of the opposite kind: the US market rose and the British market plunged. British economic news was no worse than mixed for UK bonds, yet the key long gilt future plunged two points and ten-year bonds came off a point.

These declines came despite a 0.5 per cent drop in retail sales in February, a figure that strengthened the case of those who argue that the Government will cut interest rates again to offset higher taxes.

Nevertheless, gilt investors concentrated on a sharp fall in unemployment and higher average earnings growth. John Shepperd, chief economist at Yamaichi International Europe, said: "The average earnings figure has made people afraid that the old-fashioned, poor performance of the British labour market is coming back to haunt us."

There were widespread rumours that a major Far Eastern bank, caught out by the sharp falls in the market last month, was dumping short-dated gilts and that two American banks had heavily sold gilt futures.

These special factors appear to have exaggerated the market's reaction to the earnings figures. George Magnus, an international economist with SG Warburg, said: "Even if we have passed the trough of inflation, nobody is looking for anything but a modest increase in prices 12 months out."

The plunge in gilt prices contrasted with US Treasury bonds, which were mildly encouraged by news of a subdued 0.3 per cent rise in consumer prices in February. That followed an encouraging producer prices number. The market, nevertheless, remains uncertain ahead of next week's key meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee, which decides on rate changes.

In continental Europe, bond markets were slightly weaker, despite a cut of six basis points in the Bundesbank's repurchase rate. There is little expectation of a discount rate cut at today's Bundesbank council meeting, though some dealers said the German central bank might offer a symbolic cut in the Lombard rate, largely irrelevant when rates are falling, because it marks their upper limit.



The slipway at the Cammell Laird yard where shipbuilding could soon return

Mersey shipyard may re-open

SHIPBUILDING could return to the River Mersey with the re-opening of the Cammell Laird yard.

A Liverpool-based company, which has been using the yard for ship repairs, has a scheme to re-open it to build merchant vessels. The scheme would create about 600 jobs.

However, Consultancy Services Northern (CSN) said that any return to shipbuilding would depend upon access to European Community subsidies, which have hitherto been denied because of the yard's status as a warship construction site. CSN, a subsidiary of Coastline Industries, has been renting facilities at the Birkenhead yard and employing about 400 men since Cammell Laird closed last July.

CSN is negotiating to buy the yard from owner, VSEL.

BT team opens way to new services

BY NICK NUTTALL
TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

BT researchers have made a breakthrough in telecommunications technology that may lead to a rapid explosion in consumer and business services — called information superhighways.

Researchers have developed an optical amplifier that is said to increase dramatically the capacity of fibre optic cables, which are the backbone of modern telecommunications networks.

At present, the cables, which transmit information as light, can handle about 1,900 simultaneous telephone calls. The new device, being developed by Hewlett Packard in Ipswich, boosts this to 78,000.

A BT spokesman yesterday said that the development would allow the company to offer a wide range of services, including video-on-demand, 3-D television and greater amounts of computer data, as well as conventional telephone and fax services. The breakthrough is by a team at BT's Martlesham Laboratories.

The limit on fibre cables' capacity arises not from the amplifiers. At present, information passing down a fibre is passed into an electronic box to boost the signal strength before being passed back into a section of cable. This means turning light into an electrical impulse and then turning this back into light.

The optical amplifier ends this information "bottle-neck" by ending the need for electronic boxes. Light, in the form of high-powered laser, excites an earth metal and this boosts the signal handing on the light to the next section of fibre.

☐ Mike Bett will next month step down as non-executive deputy chairman of BT, but will remain a BT director and chairman of the associate company Cellnet until January 1995. Malcolm Argent will give up his job as group director and company secretary in July, remaining as a non-executive director until December 1995. Colin Green, chief legal adviser, will become company secretary.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

War of words intensifies in bid for Westland

HOSTILITIES in the £496 million contested bid by GKN for Westland, the helicopter maker, intensified after a refusal by Westland to meet to discuss terms with the board of GKN, which has 45 per cent of the company. A further circular to Westland shareholders by GKN reveals that Alan Jones, the chairman, has declined all invitations from GKN since the bid was launched last month. "I think it becomes more hostile," said Sir David Lees, GKN chairman. The issue had become an open argument about price, he added.

Mr Jones countered: "We don't see any point in meeting them until they put a substantially increased offer on the table." The latest document accused Westland of being too optimistic in its view of future orders for helicopters on the back of the success so far of its EH101 model and points to a string of bullish statements made by the company in the past on other models such as the Black Hawk and the Westland 30 that had failed to be followed by large sales. GKN claims the price for Westland shares, 326p yesterday, would be between 210p and 250p without the bid, which is at 290p.

Thomson Corp soars

STRONG holiday bookings and record passengers at Britannia Airways helped Thomson Corporation, the Canadian publishing and travel group, to report a sharp jump in earnings. Group earnings climbed to US$277 million (US$166 million). Earnings per share were 6 cents, against 5 cents previously. Turnover slipped to US$5.9 billion last year, from US$6 billion in 1992. Thomson Tour Operations sold 3.6 million holidays, compared with 3.3 million in 1992. Lunn Poly, the UK's biggest travel agency, also had a good year, increasing its market share by 2 per cent to 23 per cent.

Rea Bros doubles up

REA Brothers, the small London banking group, saw pre-tax profits more than double last year to £2 million, despite a £300,000 provision for a contingent liability. Roger Parsons, the chief executive, said the provision relates to legal action against the bank from a former director. The dividend has been increased by 50 per cent to 0.75p for the year. Earnings per share were 394 per cent higher at 4.05p. Bad debt provisions dropped from £191,000 to £76,000, but Rea was forced to write off £90,000 in relation to its investment in a development capital fund.

Upheaval over Irish gilts

A REPORT by Ireland's Competition Authority has found Irish Stock Exchange rules on government gilt trading are anti-competitive and should be scrapped. The findings against fixed commissions on gilt transactions and against prohibitions on market-making will cause upheaval for Dublin brokers. The Irish Stock Exchange and the Irish Association of Investment Managers are unhappy at aspects of the report and an appeal is likely. The report has implications for smaller brokers who will see commissions fall, and will need to raise capital to enter market-making.

J&E Davy fined

J&E DAVY, the Dublin stockbroker, has been fined Ir£150,000 (£144,000) by the London Stock Exchange over its conduct during the sale of the Irish state shareholding in Greencore, the food company. On April 30 last year, Davy told the Irish government, and the market, that it had sold 25 million shares in Greencore on behalf of the state. It later emerged that Davy had not sold all the shares and that Ir£10 million had been "parked" in accounts connected to Davy, a Bank of Ireland subsidiary. The Irish Stock Exchange said that Davy had created a false market.

Telspec beats forecast

TELSPEC, which makes advanced telecommunications equipment, said its order book had grown to £31 million since the company's flotation in December. This includes a £7 million order from Deutsche Telekom. Pre-tax profits in 1993 were £3.4 million, against a flotation forecast of £3.3 million. Earnings were 8.28p a share, up from 7.13p. There is no final dividend, as stated in the flotation prospectus, but the company expects to pay an interim dividend for the six months to June 30. The shares rose 3p to 283p, against the offer price of 160p.

Porsche seeks to raise £80m

FROM REUTER
IN BONN

PORSCHE, the luxury car-maker, is raising DM200 million (£80 million) through an issue of ordinary and preference shares to strengthen its finances and take advantage of a recovery in its market. The issue was accompanied by a pledge to be back in profit in its next financial year, beginning August 1.

The German company, which incurred record losses of DM238.8 million in its last financial year, said the deficit would narrow to between DM140 million and DM150 million in the current year. Group losses in the first half were DM115 million.

Porsche said its 1993-94 group sales would rise to more than DM2 billion, from DM1.91 billion. Helped by good incoming orders and deliveries of new Porsche 911 Carrera models, first-half sales would exceed its initial forecast of DM920 million.

Porsche said Dresdner Bank would take over new ordinary shares with a nominal value of more than DM8.75 million and offer them to owners of old ordinary shares at the rate of one-for-four, priced at DM575.

ALLIED LYONS

Take notice that Allied-Lyons PLC has applied for an extension to a Second Tier Electricity Supply Licence granted on 30 April 1991 in the following terms:

1. Full name of applicant.
Allied-Lyons PLC.
2. Address of the applicant or, in the case of a body corporate, the registered or principal office.
24 Portland Place, London W1N 4BB.
3. Where the applicant is a company, the full names of the current Directors and the company's registered number. Executive Directors: Anthony John Hales, Michael Clifford John Jackaman, David William Jarvis, Peter Froude Macfarlane, Royston Moss, John Anthony Fitzgerald Trigg.
Non Executive Directors: William Ernest Mason, Miles James Rivett-Carnac, John Weddell Robb, Nigel John Stapleton.
Registered Number: 689729.
4. Where a holding of 20 per cent of the shares of an applicant is held by a body corporate or partnership or an unincorporated association carrying on a trade or business with or without a view to profit, the names and addresses of the holders of such shares shall be provided.
Not applicable.
5. Desired date from which the Licence is to take effect.
1st May 1994.
6. A sufficient description adequately specifying the nature and situation of the premises intended to be supplied separately identifying premises within the power bands specified in and to the extent provided by paragraph 7 below.
All non-domestic premises with a demand above 100 kW in the following PES areas:

East Midlands Electricity Plc	Manweb Plc	Southern Electric Plc
Eastern Electricity Plc	Norweb Plc	South Wales Electricity Plc
London Electricity Plc	Northern Electric Plc	South Western Electricity Plc
Midlands Electricity Plc	SEEBOARD Plc	Yorkshire Electricity Group Plc

7. (a) Subject to sub-paragraph (b) indicate the total number of premises intended to be supplied in each power band as shown in the table below, together with the aggregate energy forecast to be supplied and the aggregate estimated maximum demand for each power band.
(b) If the date in paragraph 5 above is on or after 1 April 1994 then only Power Band A shall be completed and if the said date is on or after 1 April 1998 then this paragraph will cease to have effect.

Power Band	Number of Premises	Aggregate Maximum Demand	Energy (GWh) to be Supplied
(A) not exceeding 0.1 MW	None	None	None
(B) Exceeding 0.1 MW but not exceeding 1.0 MW			

8. A description of the system of electric lines and electrical plant by means of which the applicant intends to supply electricity, indicating which plant and lines are to be constructed and which are existing plant and lines, and further identifying any parts of that system which will not be owned or otherwise in the possession or control of the applicant:
Lines and plant owned by:

East Midlands Electricity Plc	Norweb Plc	Southern Electric Plc
Eastern Electricity Plc	National Grid Company Plc	South Wales Electricity Plc
London Electricity Plc	Northern Electric Plc	South Western Electricity Plc
Midlands Electricity Plc	SEEBOARD Plc	Yorkshire Electricity Group Plc
Manweb Plc		

9. A statement of the extent (if any) to which the applicant considers it necessary for powers under Schedule 3 (compulsory acquisition of land etc.) and under Schedule 4 (other powers etc.) to the Act to be given through the licence for which he is applying.
No Powers Required.
10. Details of any licence held, applied for or being applied for by the applicant in respect of the generation, transmission or supply of electricity:
None.

Copies of maps relevant to the original application have been lodged in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Electricity (Applications for Licences and Extensions of Licences) Regulations 1990 at Regional Offices of the Office of Electricity Regulation. Copies are available for inspection by the public between 10am and 4pm on any working day.

D S MITCHELL
Company Secretary
Allied-Lyons PLC
24 Portland Place
London, W1N 4BB

BAYER AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

The Annual General Meeting of Bayer Aktiengesellschaft will be held on 27th April, 1994 in Cologne. Payment of a Dividend of 22% for the year 1993 will be proposed.

Copies of the Company's Annual Report for 1993 in English will be available from S.G.Warburg & Co. Ltd.

United Kingdom Shareholders who wish to attend and vote at the Annual General Meeting should by 19th April, 1994, inform S.G.Warburg & Co. Ltd., Paying Agency, 2 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA who will make the necessary arrangements on their behalf.

Under Section 125 of the German Companies Act, the Board of Management is only obliged to provide information on proposals and nominations that may be made by shareholders if the parties concerned prove their standing as shareholders in good time.

BAYER AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT
17th March, 1994

CSC

CAPITAL SHOPPING CENTRES PLC

PLACING AND PUBLIC OFFER

CSC's portfolio of regional shopping centres comprises interests in:-

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THE HARLEQUIN, WATFORD
THE GLADES, BROMLEY
THE POTTERIES, STOKE-ON-TRENT
THE RIDINGS, WAKEFIELD
VICTORIA CENTRE, NOTTINGHAM
ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

SHARE REGISTRATION LINE

CSC shares will be eligible for inclusion in either a general, or a single company, PEP. To reserve a prospectus and application form please call the following freephone number

0800 90 80 20

This is not an invitation to apply for shares. Applications should only be made on the basis of the prospectus. If you need advice you should consult a professional financial adviser. The contents of this advertisement, which have been prepared by and are the sole responsibility of the directors of Capital Shopping Centres PLC, have been approved by Robert Fleming & Co. Limited and Morgan Stanley & Co. Limited (both members of The Securities and Futures Authority) for the purposes of section 57 of the Financial Services Act 1986.

☐ Goldman Sachs lends a helping hand ☐ Premature hunt for cracks in recovery ☐ Institutions don't care about Rover

House of Fraser's 180p sales tag

☐ TODAY is D-Day, of sorts, for House of Fraser, along with Mohamed Fayed (old friend of royalty, new friend of Tiny Rowland), with news expected as to what sales tag is to be attached to House of Fraser, star of current televison breaks, if not the high streets.

With timing which owes nothing to coincidence, Goldman Sachs has issued a detailed circular bearing the enigmatic title: *House of Fraser — Up the Down Escalator*. Goldman, true to its culture, does not beat about the bush. The blunt message from analysts Paul Morris and Rod Whitehead is that "with much of its recovery behind it" House of Fraser's valuation is crucial. According to Goldman, short and long term projections indicate that fair value lies between 180p and 215p Taking a mid point of 200p, and assuming a 10 per cent flotation discount, would suggest an issue price of around 180p: valuing House of Fraser at £413 million.

Goldman confirmed last night that a price below 180p would be perceived as "attractive", while a figure of 200p would not encourage a "positive recomendation".

Warburgs, which is sponsoring the placing and public offer, is unlikely to place overmuch importance on Goldman's armchair perspective, their swingchair views having been formulated by effective bookbuilding discussions with UK fund managers in the wake of last month's publication of the pathfinder prospectus. That said, the raging bull market of last January, accompanied by teaser newspaper headlines heralding "House of Fraser's £500 million float", is not quite what it was. Turbulent markets tend to focus fund managers' minds. Then again, Warburgs has always been long on powers of persuasion. To all intents and purposes such powers have already been brought into play with the institutions. If Goldman can sense, as it doubtless does, some useful "biz" at anything *below* 180p, it would be reasonable to assume that Warburgs will have done all it can to hold the price at around 180p which, as Goldman admits, leaves "enough on the table". Pre-tax profits in 1993-94 of £38.2 million (£19.5 million) brought earnings per share of 11.1p. At a price of 180p the historic p/e would thus be 16.2.

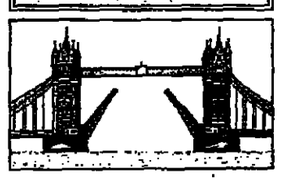
On the relatively safe assumption that Warburgs' book-building exercise with the institutions stacks up, this leaves the focus on the sale of 25 per cent of the £413 million float to the public. Not easy. Fund managers may be somewhat less macho than at the turn of the year but private investors are, unsurprisingly, distinctly more chary.

Goldman looks to pre-tax profits of £43 million for 1994-95, rising to £51.4 million for 1995-96. Andrew Jennings, managing director, has been busy developing a "new trading strategy" and strengthening management since 1992. In Goldman's words: "While both are in place they are, as yet, unproven."

No food here for prophets of gloom

☐ HYSTERIA rules. According to the Chambers of Commerce, confidence is ebbing away and we are seeing "the economy falter in the face of continued uncertainty". A respected City economist says the Government faces "a nightmare scenario of a weakening economy due to the tax increases and signs of rising

PENNINGTON



inflation in the future." This only makes sense if you're a harassed gilt-edged dealer desperate for a cut in short-term interest rates. The reality is different.

Netting out month-by-month statistical revisions, retail sales volumes were 0.6 per cent higher in the three months since the tax-raising Budget than in the previous three months. That implies an annual growth rate of 2½ per cent in high street sales during this angst-ridden period of uncertainty. Turn to the Budget red book, which details the assumptions behind the Treasury's forecast that the economy will grow 2½ per cent this year, and you will find consumer spending is expected to contribute only 2¼ per cent. The panel of independent forecasters, though slightly more optimistic on growth, on average expected consumer spending to rise less than 2 per cent. No need to jump out of the window yet. Indeed, retail sales for the quarter underestimate consumer spending. They exclude car sales, the most buoyant sector in Monday's CBI survey.

The pattern of retail sales shows consumers are also doing their bit to keep inflation down. Volume rises vary inversely with price rises, both sector by sector and from month to month. Bargain hunters boosted shop business during the January sales, then moved back to their local supermarkets to take advantage of stiffer price competition there. The figures suggest shop inflation has been running at under 2 per cent.

For the truly depressed, however, there was still gloom to be found over inflation in the latest news on earnings. In December and January, the growth in average earnings accelerated from 3 to 3¼ per cent, the first rise for almost two years. But where do the retail sales pessimists think consumer spending will come from if real incomes do not rise? On the basis of last year's output growth, the inflationary element in earnings is only 1¼ per cent, well below underlying inflation for the economy as a whole. On this year's output forecast, a growth rate in average earnings of, say, 4¼ per cent would still be help the Treasury and Bank of England achieve their medium-term inflation target. The recovery could certainly go wrong, but there is no evidence of it here.

Should vote, won't vote

☐ ALMOST 120 million shares were voted in favour if selling Rover to BMW at the extraordinary meeting of British Aerospace, less than three million against. That was a pretty convincing majority. But BAe has some 377 million shares entitled to vote. On an issue of the greatest importance to the finances and future strategy of the company, let alone British industry, two thirds, mainly British financial institutions, did not bother to express an opinion. What a gift to those who distrust the market to guide British business. What a kick in the teeth for the Cadbury committee, for the representative Institutional Shareholders Committee and for all those trying to improve corporate governance to help the economy work better.

The ISC's statement on responsibilities of fund managers, hardly radical, was firm on this point. It said: "Institutional shareholders should make positive use of their voting rights, unless they have good reason for doing otherwise. They should register their votes wherever possible on a regular basis". The Cadbury committee, warmly welcomed the statement and recommended institutions to "disclose their policies on the use of voting rights". The use of lack of use of votes was "a subject of legitimate interest to those on whose behalf they invest".

Time after time, bodies charged with improving corporate governance, for instance in auditing and accounting, are frustrated by institutions' indolence. An active minority take their responsibilities seriously. Most pretend they have none, yet insist on their absolute right to decide companies' futures in takeover bids. They should not be surprised if that right is challenged.

East holds more promise than Europe for Coats

By Susan Gilchrist

■ Coats Viyella is downbeat about prospects in Britain and Europe but says it is well-placed to take advantage of opportunities in Third World markets

COATS Viyella, the international textiles group, is looking to emerging economies in Asia and Eastern Europe for growth in the face of continuing weakness in its leading markets.

Neville Bain, chief executive, said that Coats was in "a unique position" to take advantage of opportunities in Third World markets compared with other British textile manufacturers with narrower geographical coverage. He was downbeat about prospects in Britain and Europe, which account for almost 65 per cent of group sales.

Mr Bain's remarks came as he unveiled a 38 per cent rise in pre-tax profits, from £109.1 million to £150.3 million, in the year to December 31, at the top end of market expectations.

He said that the impetus of the rise had been acquisitions. Growth in existing operations had been flat because of the downturn on the Continent.

Underlying profits in Britain rose, in spite of continuing pressure on margins, particularly in the clothing business. A good performance by Dynacast, the precision engineering business, helped to lift profits in North America. South America returned to the black after a reduction in losses in the Brazilian thread operation.

The best-performing regions were Africa, Asia and Australia, from which profits more than doubled, largely because of a first-time contribution from the Indian operations, which were consolidated as a subsidiary after the increase in holding from 39.9 per cent to 51 per cent last year.

Mr Bain said that further expansion in emerging markets was central to Coats' strategy because of the rapid growth and low manufacturing costs in these economies. He said more production would shift from high-cost western Europe, Hong Kong and Malaysia to cheaper Asian countries. However, a substantial manufacturing base was needed in Britain to meet retailers' demands for "quick-response" production.

Further infill acquisitions are likely during the year, particularly in clothing in Europe, but Mr Bain ruled out a big takeover in the next 12 months.

Coats announced the acquisition, for $12.5 million, of a precision plastic moulding company in America to add critical mass to Dynacast.

A final dividend of 4.75p (4.25p) makes 8.0p (7.25p). Shareholders are again being offered an enhanced scrip dividend alternative. Coats estimates that this would save £26 million of cash and enable it to recover £8 million in ACT previously written-off. Shareholders must approve the move, which Mr Bain said would not be a permanent feature.

Tempus, page 27

GrandMet sues Brent Walker

GRAND Metropolitan yesterday issued a High Court writ in the latest stage in its battle to make Brent Walker make a deferred payment of £50 million relating to the £685 million acquisition of the William Hill and Mecca betting business from GrandMet in 1989 (Martin Flanagan writes).

Proceedings have been issued seeking rectification of clauses of the sale agreement. Brent Walker said last night it would resist the writ vigorously.

Brent Walker has withheld the final payment for William Hill, saying profits were not as high as GrandMet had stated. It wants the dispute to be settled by Arthur Andersen, the accountant appointed as independent expert.



Political correctness has infected the Wombles. Storm Group, which now owns the licensing and merchandising rights for the Wimbledon Common creatures, has introduced Alderney, a new and environmentally friendly Womble for the 1990s

Premier slips on oil price

By Carl Mortished

A GAS discovery in Burma was not enough to lift shares in Premier Consolidated Oilfields after the company disclosed a fall in pre-tax profits last year, from £16.8 million to £13.3 million. This was due to a fall in output and lower oil prices.

A successful well was drilled offshore, 260 miles south of the Burmese capital, Rangoon, with combined flows of 79 million cubic feet of gas and 1,900 barrels of condensate per day.

The discovery raises hopes that the Burmese gasfield, in which Premier has a 30 per cent interest, may have sufficient commercial potential to justify a pipeline to Thailand. Options being considered by Texaco, the operator for exporting the gas, include a link with a proposed gas pipeline route from Total's Yadana field to Thailand.

Premier's production fell to an average rate of 12,172 barrels of oil equivalent per day, from 13,888, owing to a routine maintenance shutdown at Wytch Farm, the onshore field in Dorset. Charles Jamieson, Premier's chief executive, said production was expected to rise to 20,000 in 1996.

"For planning purposes, we use the current oil price of $14 and we are reasonably comfortable at these levels for the next two years," he added.

The loss of tax relief on exploration and production expenditure has forced Premier to make an exceptional provision of £8.8 million. The one-off charge caused after-tax profits to fall to £1.3 million (£15 million) last year.

In May, Premier expects to drill the first exploration well in its offshore Cambodia concession. The company has laid off some of the financial risk with a farm-in agreement under which Idemitsu Oil & Gas, of Japan, can acquire a one-third interest.

Tempus, page 27

Northern hotel group rescued

A MANAGEMENT team is to buy a chain of 22 hotels from the receiver for £65 million. Coopers & Lybrand in Leeds has sold Principal Hotels, which is based mainly in the North and which was established in 1986. It now operates 22 hotels in the three-star regional market.

Despite continued profitable trading at an operating level, the group went into administration in February 1992. The deal is being funded by a syndicate arranged and led by NatWest Ventures.

Edward Klempka, the receiver, said: "When we took over as administrative receivers two years ago, the group had debts of over £100 million. However, the hotel chain was essentially trading at a profit. We have been able to continue to trade and pass on a financially secure group to the purchasers."

NOTICE OF MEETING

Clerical Medical

Annual General Meeting

Notice is given that the 170th Annual General Meeting of the Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society will be held at 15 St James's Square, London SW1Y 4LQ on Wednesday, 20 April 1994 at 2.30pm for the following purposes:

1 To receive the Directors' Report and Audited Accounts for the year ended 31 December 1993.

2 To receive a Report on the actuarial valuation of the Society's liabilities as at 31 December 1993, made for the purpose of a distribution of profit.

3 To re-elect Directors and to fix their remuneration.

4 To re-appoint the Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

5 To transact any other ordinary business of an Annual General Meeting.

Any member entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting may appoint a proxy to attend and vote instead of him.

A proxy need not be a member of the Society.

Any instrument appointing a proxy must be deposited at the undermentioned address not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for the Meeting.

By order of the Board
S A M Fogarty
Secretary

15 St James's Square
London SW1Y 4LQ
16 March 1994

Clerical Medical Investment Group comprises:
Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society and its subsidiaries.



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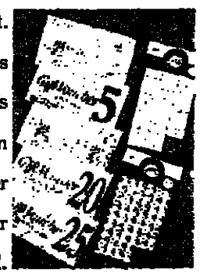
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TT15/94

Mixed economic signals cause rally to run off the rails

SHARES saw an abrupt end to the recent rally as a wave of profit-taking swept the London market after mixed signals from the latest economic statistics left the City unsure about prospects for a further cut in base rates.

Good unemployment figures showing a drop in February's jobless total were offset by a surprise fall in retail sales. Sentiment was further dampened by sharp falls in the gilt market and weaker FT-SE futures.

Germany only trimmed a key money market rate by a modest six basis points, so the Bundesbank is not generally expected to follow through with a cut in its main discount rate today. However, some in the market are still hopeful that there might be a further easing of German rates as the Bundesbank is not due to meet again for another month because of the Easter holiday.

A negative start on Wall Street saw shares in London end near their lows. The FT-SE 100 index, which had gained more than 75 points over the previous two sessions, failed to keep the momentum going and lost 24.5 points to 3,242.9. Second-liners fared somewhat better as the FT-SE mid 250 gave up 12.1 points to 3,890.4.

But volume was thin, only reaching 625.5 million with many in the Square Mile away or distracted by the Cheltenham festival.

Many retailers were upset by concerns about prospects

STOCK MARKET

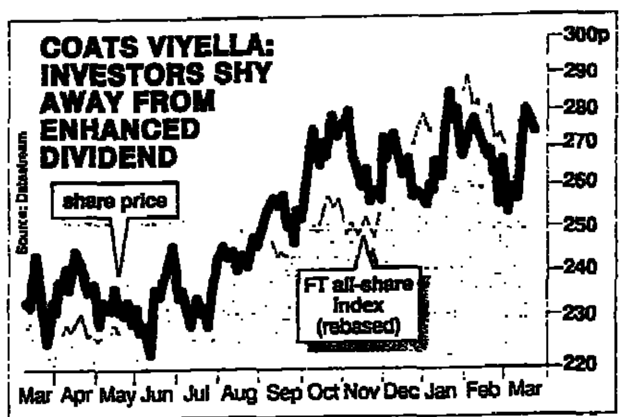
for a sustained recovery in spending amid fears that consumers are drawing in their horns before tax increases next month. **Argos** eased 3p to 357p, as did **Boots**, by 4p to 546p, **Dixons**, 1p to 212p, **Kingfisher**, 12p to 607p, **Marks and Spencer**, 1p to 424p and **W H Smith A**, 4p to 518p.

Meanwhile, reports of further option selling in **Hillsdown** saw the shares ease 1p to 164p, on volume of 2.5 million. Elsewhere in the sector, **United Biscuits** added 5p to 338p before final figures due today, while **Cadbury Schweppes** rose 3p to 499p after a profits upgrade by Hoare Govett, the broker.

Vodafone continued to slide, losing another 14p to 557p in reaction to Tuesday's placing of 5.9 million shares and reports of downgrades.

Coats Viyella were a weak market in spite of reporting a strong rise in profits and dividends. Coats shares, which have had a good run recently, were on offer, losing 18p to 262p after a combination of profit-taking and reports that institutions were shying away from the group's third enhanced share dividend proposal, perceived by some as a back-door cash call.

Schroders bucked the gloomy trend after it reported better-than-expected annual



profits, helping the shares jump 80p to £11.70. Others in the merchant banking sector received a boost, with **Hambros** up 14p to 378p, **Close Brothers**, 15p stronger to 540p, *Kleinwort Benson*, 16p higher at 548p, **Rea Brothers**, 4p firmer at 68p and **S G Warburg**, up 1p to 803p.

Wellcome lost 14p to 629p on reports that a US study had cast doubt on the effectiveness of AZT, its anti-Aids drug. Elsewhere, renewed bid talk and American buying helped **Fisons** add 3p to 134p, on volume 4.5 million.

Rolls-Royce firmed 4p to 190p, on heavy volume of 10 million shares, after reports that Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker, had advised clients to buy.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Gilts suffered big falls, with losses in the cash market stretching to almost two full points. Technical selling and bearish sentiment latched on to news of a higher than expected rise in average earnings and large fall in the jobless total to undermine the market. Despite touching a high of £112¹⁸/₃₂, the June series of the long gilt future fell through key support levels, triggering stop-losses, and hitting a low of £110⁵/₃₂ before recovering a little to close down £1⁹/₃₂ at £110²⁴/₃₂, on an active volume of 114,000 contracts. The index-linked market fell by one point at the long end. Among cash stocks Treasury 9½ per cent 1999 lost 21 ticks to £111, while Treasury 9 per cent 2012 tumbled £1²⁴/₃₂ to £115¹⁹/₃₂.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares were narrowly mixed at midday, reflecting lingering fears of higher interest rates and inflation, as the market focused its attention on merger and acquisition activity. The Dow Jones industrial average was down 4.03 points at 3,845.56.

PHILIP PANGALOS

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

THE POUND
US $ .... 1.4918 (+0.0004)
German mark .... 2.5223 (-0.0083)
Exchange index .... 80.5 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET
FT-SE 100 .... 3242.9 (-24.5)
Dow Jones .... 3845.56 (-4.03)*
Nikkei Avg .... 20677.77 (+168.92)

INTEREST RATES
London Bank Base 5¼%
3-month Interbank 5³/₁₆-5¹/₁₆%
US Federal Funds 3¼%*
3-month Treas Bills 3.53-3.51%*
Long Bond 6.85%*

CURRENCIES

New York:		London:	
£:$	1.4935*	£:$	1.4925
$:DM	1.6889*	£:DM	2.5213
$:SWfr	1.4325*	£:SWfr	2.1388
$:Ffr	5.7455*	£:Ffr	8.5690
$:Yen	105.86*	£:Yen	157.95
£:SDR	1.0668	£:ECU	1.3057

London Forex market close

GOLD
London Fixing ($):
AM 385.30 .... PM 385.50
Close 385.70-386.30
New York:
Comex 386.25-386.75*

OIL
Brent Crude .... $13.60 per bbl (Mar)

RETAIL PRICES
RPI..141.3 Jan (2.5%) Jan 1987 = 100
* Denotes midday trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.23	2.03
Austria Sch	18.75	17.25
Belgium Fr	55.18	50.78
Canada $	2.142	1.982
Cyprus Cyp£	0.792	0.742
Denmark Kr	10.47	9.67
Finland Mkk	8.91	8.11
France Fr	9.04	8.34
Germany Dm	2.68	2.47
Greece Dr	385.50	360.50
Hong Kong $	12.18	11.18
Ireland Pt	1.09	1.01
Italy Lira	2591.00	2436.00
Japan Yen	173.00	166.00
Malta	0.622	0.567
Netherlands Gld	2.986	2.756
Norway Kr	11.52	10.72
Portugal Esc	270.50	252.00
S Africa Rd	5.90	5.00
Spain Pta	214.50	200.50
Sweden Kr	12.29	11.49
Switzerland Fr	2.28	2.10
Turkey Lira	32500.0	30000.0
USA $	1.589	1.459

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Earnings expand at Spandex

Spandex, the supplier of signmaking systems and materials to the European signmaking industries, boosted pre-tax profits 22 per cent to £5.45 million (£4.46 million) in 1993, and set up a Hungarian subsidiary, Spandex Kft. Earnings per share rose by 42 per cent to 32p. A final dividend of 4.9p gives a total of 7p (6.5p). There is a 2-for-1 scrip issue.

Back in black

Britton Group, the packaging company, returned to profit in 1993, and said its low 17 per cent gearing would enable ambitious expansion. Pre-tax profits were £2.73 million, (£2.32 million loss), and a final *dividend of 0.09p a share* makes a total of 0.18p (nil). Robin Williams, chief executive, said Britton was now in a position to examine potential acquisitions.

EFT ahead

EFT, the Glasgow-based asset finance company, said record business levels drove profits up 40 per cent in 1993, and that revenue in the first two months of this year was well ahead of last year. Pre-tax profits of £2.03 million compare with £1.45 million last time, and the total dividend rises 15 per cent to 1.50p (1.3p).

Market shows appetite for spring share issues

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

SHARES in Domnick Hunter, which makes high-efficiency filters for compressed air and liquids, will be priced at 200p, capitalising the company at £62.5 million when it is floated this month.

About 32.1 per cent of the enlarged share capital is being sold, to raise £15.3 million after expenses. Granville & Co is sponsoring the issue and NatWest Wood Mackenzie is the broker.

Brian Thompson, the chairman, said the proceeds from the placing would be used to redeem £9.9 million of preference shares and repay £5.4 million of debt. Gearing would fall to about 10 per cent as a result.

A road show involving presentations to about 80 institutions has drawn substantial interest. Mr Thompson said he was delighted with the response. Domnick Hunter made an operating profit of £4.71 million in 1993, on turnover of £30.6 million. At the offer price, the shares will trade on a pro forma, fully diluted 1993 earnings multiple of 21.5. Dealings are expected to start on March 29.

☐ MAID, the on-line business information group, claimed its controversial flotation had been successful after a placing of 11.5 million shares, representing 14.2 per cent of the share capital, had been fully subscribed.



Key players: Redfern, Scott and Yardley of Partco

The shares, placed with institutions in Britain and America, were priced at a "competitive" 110p, capitalising the group at about £89.1 million. That was below previous City expectations.

Reports that some houses had balked at the valuation, given the group's relatively brief track record, prompted a scaling down of the float. MAID will receive net proceeds of £11.6 million, compared with previous City expectations of £15 million to £20 million.

Dan Wagner, MAID's chief executive and founder, who described the bearish reports as "a web of fabrications", said the successful placing reflected confidence among investors in the company's prospects. Dealings are due to start on March 24.

☐ The intermediaries offer for Partco, the leading distributor in the UK automotive aftermarket, was 9.05 times subscribed.

The Northamptonshire-based company, of which Gordon Yardley is the chairman, Peter Redfern the managing director and Chris Scott the finance chief, markets and distributes vehicle components from 200 branches around the country. It received valid applications for 33 million ordinary shares at 200p, against the 3.65 million that were available. Intermediaries have been allocated about 10.83 per cent of the shares for which they applied.

Earlier this month, about 10.9 million shares, representing 75 per cent of the placing and offer, were placed by Cazenove with institutional investors. Dealings are due to begin tomorrow.

WALL STREET

	Mar 16 midday	Mar 15 close
AMP Inc	63¼	63¼
AMR Corp	63	63¾
Abbott Labs	28	28¼
Aetna Life	57	56¾
Ahmanson (HF)	17¼	17¼
Air Prod & Chem	47¼	46¾
Albertson's	28¾	28¾
Alcan Aluminum	23¾	23¾
Alco Standard	55¾	55¾
Allied Signal	38¾	38¾
Alum Co of Am	74¼	73½
Amax Gold Inc	7¼	7¼
Amerada Hess	46¾	46¾
Amer Brands	31¼	31¼
Amer Cyanamid	43¾	43
Amer El Power	32¾	32¾
Amer Express	30	29¾
Amer Genl Corp	27¾	27¾
Amer Home Pr	58¾	58¾
Amer Intl	84¾	83¾
Amer Stores	52¼	51¼
Amer T & T	52¾	52¾
Ameritech	40¼	41
Amoco	54¾	52¾
Anheuser-Busch	50¼	50¾
Apple Computer	37¼	37¾
Archer Daniels	25¼	25¾
Arkla	7¼	7¾
Armco	5¾	5¾
Armstrng Wrld	54¼	55¾
Asarco	26	26½
Ashland Oil	42¼	42¾
Atl Richfield	97¾	97¾
Auto Data Pro	53¾	53⅞
Avery Dennison	30	30
Avon Products	56½	56¾
Baker Hughes	19	18¾
Baltim Gas & El	22¾	23
Banc One	34	34¾
BankAmerica	42¾	42¾
Bank of NY	52¾	52¾
Bankers Tr NY	75¾	75¾
Barnett Banks	45¾	45¾
Bausch & Lomb	49¾	49¾
Baxter Intl	23¾	23¾
Becton Dickson	40¾	40
Bell Atlantic	52¾	52¾
BellSouth	54¾	54¾
Black & Decker	21¾	21
Block (H&R)	46¾	47¾
Boeing	46¾	46¾
Boise Cascade	25¾	25¾
Borden Inc	14¾	14¾
Bristol Myrs Sq	54¾	54¾
Browning Ferris	28¾	29
Brunswick	22¾	22½
Burlington Nthn	65¾	66
CBS	310¾	310
CNA Financial	68¾	68¾
CPC Intl	47¾	48¾
CSX	85¾	86¾
Campbell Soup	39¾	40¾
Can Pacific	17¼	17¼
Cpd Cities ABC	700¾	708¾
Cpd Holdings	32¾	32¾
Carolina Pwr	26¾	26¾
Caterpillar	115¾	117¾
Central & SW	25¾	26
Champion Intl	29¾	29¾
Chase Manhat	33¾	33¾
Chemical Bk	38¾	38¾
Chevron Corp	87¾	88
Chrysler	58¾	59¾
Chubb Corp	73¾	73¾
Cigna Corp	63	63¾
Citicorp	40¾	40
Clorox	52	53
Coastal Corp	32¾	32¾
Coca Cola	40¾	41¾
Colgate-Palmolive	63¾	64¾
Columbia Gas	29¾	29½
Commonw Ed	27¾	27¾
Compaq Comp	101¼	101¾
Comp Ass Int	37¾	37¾
Conagra	27¾	27¾
Cons Edison	30¾	30¾
Cons Nat Gas	42	42¾
Cons Rail	61	61¾
Cooper Inds	38¾	38¾
Corning Inc	30¾	30¾
Crown Cork	38¾	37¾
Dana Corp	57¾	57¾
Dayton Hudson	73¾	74¾
Deere	89¾	89¾
Delta Air Lines	49¾	49¾
Deluxe Corp	32¾	32¾
Detroit Edison	27¾	28
Digital Equip	32¾	32¾
Dillard Dept St	33¾	33
Disney (Walt)	45¾	46
Dominion Res	41¾	41¾
Donelley (RR)	30¾	30¾
Dover Corp	63¾	63¾
Dow Chemical	63¾	63¾
Dow Jones	41¾	41¾
Dresser	24	23¾
Duke Power	37¾	37¾
Dun & Brdstreet	60	60¾
Du Pont	56¾	55¾
Eastman Kodak	44¾	45

	Mar 16 midday	Mar 15 close
Eaton Corp	58¾	58¾
Emerson Elec	62¾	62¾
Engelhard Corp	30¾	30¾
Enron Corp	33	33
Entergy	31¾	31¾
Ethyl Corp	12¾	12¾
Exxon	64¾	64¾
FMC Corp	47¾	48¾
FPL Group	34¾	34¾
Federal Express	71¾	70
Fed Nat Mtge	83¾	82¾
First Chicago	49¾	49¾
First Interstate	70¾	69¾
First Union Rlty	8	8¾
Fleet Fnl Grp	37¾	37¾
Fluor Corp	50¾	50¾
Ford Motor	62¾	63¾
GTE Corp	31¾	32
Gannett	53¾	53¾
Gap Inc Del	46	46¾
Gen Dynamics	91¾	92
Gen Electric	104¾	104¾
Gen Mills	54¾	54¾
Gen Motors	61¾	61¾
Gen Reinsurance	106	105¾
Gen Signal	35¾	35¾
Genuine Parts	37¾	37
Georgia Pac	66½	67¾
Gillette	65¾	65
Glaxo ADR	20¾	20¾
Goodrich (BF)	43¾	43¾
Goodyear Tire	45¾	45¾
Grace (W&R)	45¾	44
Grt Atl Pac Tea	26	26¾
Great Wstn Fin	17¾	17¾
Halliburton	31¾	30¾
Harcourt General	36¾	36¾
Heinz (HJ)	31¾	31¾
Hercules	114¾	114¾
Hershey Foods	49	49
Hewlett Packard	90	90
Hilton Hotels	69¾	69¾
Home Depot	42¾	42¾
Homestake Mng	20¾	20¾
Honeywell	33¾	33¾
Household Intl	33¾	33¾
Houston Inds	37¾	39¾
Humana	20¾	20¾
ITT Corp	87¾	87¾
Illinois Tool	44¾	44¾
INCO	24¾	24
Ingersoll Rand	38¾	39
Inland Steel	34¾	35
Intel Corp	71¾	71¾
IBM	57¾	57¾
Intl Flav & Fr	35¾	36
Intl Paper	68¾	69¾
James River Vs	18¾	18¾
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	39¾	39¾
Kellogg	48¾	48¾
Kerr-McGee	45¾	44¾
Kimberly-Clark	55¾	55
Kmart	18	18
Knight-Ridder	60¾	59¾
Lilly (Eli)	51	51¾
Limited Inc	19¾	19
LIN Brdcstng	109¾	109¾
Lincoln Nat	42¾	43
Litton	73¾	74¾
Liz Claiborne	22¾	22¾
Lockheed Corp	67¾	67¾
Louisiana Pac	41¾	41¾
MCI Commun	25	24¾
Marriott Intl	31	31
Marsh & McLen	82¾	82¾
Masco Corp	34¾	34¾
May Dept St	44¾	44¾
Maytag Corp	18¾	18¾
McCaw Cellular	50¾	50¾
McDonalds	60¾	60¾
McDonnell D	117¾	119¾
McGraw Hill	71¾	71
Mead Corp	42¾	41¾
Medtronic	79¾	80
Mellon Bk	57¾	57¾
Melville Corp	36¾	36¾
Merck Inc	31¾	31¾
Merrill Lynch	43¾	43¾
Minnesota Mine	103¾	103
Mobil Corp	78¾	78
Monsanto	77¾	77¾
Morgan (JP)	66	65¾
Motorola Inc	108¾	108¾
Natl Medical	17¾	17¾
Natl Semi	21	22¾
Natl Service Ind	27¾	27¾
Navistar Int	24¾	24¾
NBD Bancorp	29¾	29
NY Times A	27¾	27¾
Newmont Mng	53¾	53¾
Niag Mohawk	18¾	18¾
Nike B	57¾	53
NL Industries	9	8¾
Nordstrom	40	40
Norfolk Sthrn	67¾	67¾
Nthn State Pwr	42¾	43¾
Norwest Corp	23¾	23
Nynex Corp	36¾	36¾
Occidental Pet	17¾	17¾
Ohio Edison	19¾	19¾

	Mar 16 midday	Mar 15 close
Oracle Systems	34	34¾
Oryx Energy Co	16¾	15¾
Owens Corning	38¾	38
PNC Financial	27¾	27¾
PPG Industries	79¾	79¾
Paccar Inc	57¾	58
Pacificorp	18¾	18¾
Pac Enterprises	21¾	21¾
Pac Gas & Elect	30¾	30¾
Pac Telesis	55	55¾
Pall Corp	17¾	17¾
Panhandle East	21¾	21¾
Parker Hannifin	36¾	36¾
Peco Energy	28	28
Penney (JC)	58	58¾
Pennzoil	53¾	53¾
Pepsico	37	36¾
Pfizer	56	56¾
Phelps Dodge	56¾	56¾
Philip Morris	55¾	56
Phillips Pet	27¾	28¾
Pitney Bowes	44	44¾
Polaroid	31¾	31¾
PriceCostco	19¾	20¾
Procter & Gmbl	55¾	56
Pub Serv E & G	28¾	28¾
Quaker Oats	62¾	62¾
Ralston Purina	44¾	44¾
Raychem Corp	40	39¾
Raytheon	67¾	67¾
Reebok Intl	34¾	33¾
Reynolds Metals	51¾	50¾
Roadway Srvcs	71¾	71¾
Rockwell Intl	42¾	42
Rohm & Haas	55	55¾
Royal Dutch	104¾	104¾
Rubbermaid	29¾	29¾
Safeco Corp	55¾	55¾
St Paul's Cos	81¾	80¾
Salomon Inc	51¾	51¾
Santa Fe Pac	24¾	24¾
Sara Lee Corp	21¾	21¾
Scecorp	16¾	17
Schering Plough	57¾	57¾
Schlumberger	57	56¾
Scott Paper	45¾	45¾
Seagram	29¾	28¾
Sears Roebuck	48¾	48¾
Shell Trans	62¾	62¾
Sherwin Wlms	32¾	32¾
Skyline Corp	21¾	20¾
Snap-On-Tools	43	43¾
Southern Co	20	20
Sthwestern Bell	40	40¾
Sprint Corp	35¾	35¾
Stanley Works	41¾	41¾
Sun Company	34¾	34
Sun Microsys	31¾	30¾
Suntrust	45¾	45¾
Supervalu	34¾	34¾
Syntex Corp	14¾	14¾
Sysco Corp	26¾	26¾
TRW Inc	75¾	75¾
Tandem Comp	15¾	15¾
Tandy Corp	44¾	44¾
Telecom Corp	3¾	3¾
Teledyne	20¾	20¾
Temple Inland	48¾	49¾
Tenneco	56¾	57¾
Texaco	64¾	65¾
Texas Inst	87¾	87
Texas Utilities	37¾	37¾
Textron	57¾	57¾
Time Warner	40¾	39¾
Times-Mirror	34	34¾
Timken	36¾	37
Torchmark	42¾	41¾
Toys R Us	36	35¾
Transamerica	52¾	52¾
Travelers	37¾	37¾
Tribune	58¾	58¾
Tyco Labs	54¾	55¾
UAL Corp	127¾	128
UST Inc	27¾	27¾
USX Marathon	16¾	16¾
Unilever NV	109¾	109¾
Union Camp	47¾	47¾
Union Carbide	24¾	24¾
Union Pacific	59¾	58¾
Unisys Corp	15¾	16
USAir Group	8¾	8¾
USF&G Corp	15¾	15¾
US Life	39¾	40¾
US West	39¾	39¾
United Tech	68	68
Unocal Corp	27¾	27¾
Upjohn	28¾	28¾
VF Corp	49¾	48¾
WMX Tech	25¾	25
Wal-Mart Stores	27¾	27¾
Warner-Lambert	63¾	63¾
Wells Fargo	140¾	139¾
Westinghouse El	13¾	13¾
Weyerhaeuser	45¾	46
Whirlpool	67¾	68
Whitman	15¾	15¾
Winn Dixie	53¾	54
Woolworth	20	20¾
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	50¾	50¾
Xerox	98¾	98¾

RECENT ISSUES

Abtrust New Dawn C	246	...
Alpha Airports (140)	174½	+2½
Care UK Wts	5½	-½
Cedardata (105)	107	-1
Chiroscience (150)	143	-3
Clinical Computing (124)	148	...
Edinburgh New Tiger (50)	48½	...
F & C Private Eq	49	...
Fidelity Jpn Values (100)	94	+1
Fidelity Jps Wts	54	+2
Finelist (130)	145	...
Fleming Japan C	104	+½
Franklin Res	£31½	+¼
Goldsborough Hlth (170)	169	...
Graham Group (183)	214	...
Guangdong Dvlpt	73	...
Guangdong Dvlpt Wts	30½	+1¼
Herald Inv Tst (100)	102	...
Herald Inv Wts	51	...
Mercury Euro Prvtn	464	...
Mithras Inv Tst (50)	51	...
Mithras Inv Wts	26	...
Ptarmigan Intl C	199	...
Radstone Tech (125)	114	-1
Saracen Value (100)	95	...
Saracen Value Wts	38	...
Schroder UK Gwth	501	-2
Trifast (200)	208	...
Tring Intl (118)	129	...
United Carriers (153)	158	-1

RIGHTS ISSUES

Burford n/p (92)	8½	-1½
Cap & Regional n/p (173)	16	...
Care UK n/p (4¼)	4	-½
Conrad Ritblat n/p (42)	4	...
Creston Land n/p (15)	2½	...
Firth (GM) n/p (12)	11	...
Grosvenor Inns n/p (120)	35	...
Wetherspoon JD n/p (315)	50	-2

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Close Bros .... 540p (+15p)
Hambros .... 378p (+14p)
Kleinwort Benson .... 548p (+16p)
Church .... 440p (+12p)
Caledonia .... 667p (+12p)

FALLS:

Lloyds .... 586p (-13p)
Coats Viyella .... 260p (-20p)
Siebe .... 598p (-11p)
Kingfisher .... 607p (-12p)
Vodafone .... 557p (-14p)
Kleeneze .... 215p (-11p)
Reckitt Colman .... 638p (-13p)
Delta .... 509p (-13p)
Grand Met .... 473p (-13p)
Marley .... 195p (-10p)
Wellcome .... 629p (-14p)
Williams Holdings .... 394p (-13p)
Wolseley .... 947p (-28p)
Ulster TV .... 695p (-19p)
Pearson .... 676p (-14p)
API .... 398p (-17p)
Mersey Docks .... 478p (-15p)

Closing Prices Page 31

FT-SE VOLUMES

ASDA Gp	9,900	Cadbury	973	MEPC	270	Scot Power	1,300
Abbey Natl	957	Caradon	1,200	Marks Spr	1,500	Sears	1,900
Alld-Lyons	1,800	Carlton Cms	234	NFC	5,100	Svrn Trent	1,600
Anglian W	630	Coats Vyla	7,800	NatWst Bk	6,400	Shell Trans	4,000
Argyll Gp	4,200	Cm Union	1,100	Nat Power	2,300	Siebe	1,000
Arjo Wiggn	1,000	Courtaulds	1,200	Nth Wst W	289	SmKl Bch	1,200
AB Foods	1,000	Enterpr Oil	1,100	Nthrn Fds	488	Smith Nph	2,600
BAA	563	Forte	2,300	P & O	1,900	Sthrn Elec	246
BAT Inds	3,800	GRE	2,000	Pearson	947	Std Chartd	1,000
BOC	567	GUS	3,000	PowerGen	886	Sun Allnce	3,300
BP	5,400	Gen Acc	2,000	Prudential	2,800	TI Gp	584
BTR	5,000	Gen Elec	3,100	Rank Org	1,000	TSB	3,200
BT	3,900	Glaxo	5,100	RMC	628	Tesco	4,400
Bk of Scot	2,600	Granada	2,600	RTZ	1,900	Thames W	580
Barclays	10,000	Grand Met	2,700	Reckitt Col	825	Thrn EMI	927
Bass	2,900	Guinness	1,900	Redland	1,800	Tomkins	1,600
Blue Circle	2,000	HSBC	996	Reed Intl	689	Unilever	2,400
Boots	1,600	Hanson	6,300	Rentokil	373	Utd Bisc	2,700
Bowater	1,100	ICI	2,000	Reuters	838	Vodafone	2,000
Brit Aero	515	Inchcape	516	Rolls Ryce	10,000	Wrbrg (SG)	617
Brit Airwys	2,000	Kingfisher	1,200	Ryl Ins	1,700	Wellcome	1,300
Brit Gas	3,900	Ladbroke	3,700	Ryl Bk Scot	1,000	Whitbread	297
Brit Steel	4,700	Land Secs	880	Sainsbury	2,600	Wlms Hld	1,900
Burmah C	114	Legal & Gn	890	Schroders	1,000	Wolseley	993
Cable Wire	3,900	Lloyds Bk	1,100	Scot & New	710	Zeneca	725

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3845.56 (-4.03)
S&P Composite .... 466.97 (-0.04)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Av'ge .... 20677.77 (+168.92)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 9720.61 (-142.95)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 425.24 (-2.03)

Sydney: AO .... 2173.5 (+1.0)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2172.73 (+7.14)

FT 30 share: .... 2552.0 (-16.5)

Brussels:
General .... 7725.48 (+42.14)

Paris: CAC-40 .... 2245.24 (-13.28)

Zurich: SKA Gen .... 701.70 (-8.80)

London:
FT A All-Share .... 1636.52 (-10.05)
FT Non Financials .... 1760.90 (-11.23)
FT Gold Mines .... 218.5 (-0.4)
FT Fixed Interest .... 121.37 (+0.17)
FT Govt Secs .... 99.94 (-0.56)
Bargains 30376
SEAQ Volume 625.5m
USM (Datastrm) .... 166.11 (-0.34)

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 7	March 18	June 16	June 27

Call options were taken out on 16/3/94: Caverdale, Consolidated Mining, Edmond Holdings, Royal Insurance, Schroder Split Cap, Sleepy Kids.
Puts: Kleeneze, Royal Insurance, Sleepy Kids.
Puts & Calls: Lionheart, Schroder Split Cap, Sidlaw.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100	Mar 94	3266.0	3272.0	3230.0	3238.0	24113
Previous open interest: 68664	Jun 94	3278.0	3279.0	3242.0	3247.5	9872
Three Month Sterling	Mar 94	94.82	94.83	94.81	94.81	7910
Previous open interest: 442836	Jun 94	94.91	94.95	94.84	94.87	39583
	Sep 94	94.79	94.85	94.72	94.75	20259
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 94	95.68	95.69	95.68	95.69	201
Previous open interest: 8761	Sep 94	95.28	95.29	95.28	95.29	121
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 94	94.59	94.60	94.56	94.57	28343
Previous open interest: 865878	Sep 94	94.87	94.89	94.83	94.85	25485
Long Gilt	Mar 94	112-31	113-01	111-18	111-24	320
Previous open interest: 143777	Jun 94	111-30	113-18	110-05	110-24	115045
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 94	110.35	110.57	110.32	110.52	1318
	Sep 94				109.45	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 94	97.96	98.05	97.52	97.68	166797
Previous open interest: 208000	Sep 94	97.70	97.70	97.52	97.44	350
German Gov Bd Bobl	Jun 94	101.46	101.61	101.31	101.41	83
Previous open interest: 3346	Sep 94					0
Three month ECU	Jun 94	94.21	94.22	94.17	94.20	1461
Previous open interest: 28266	Sep 94	94.42	94.45	94.42	94.42	829
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 94	96.20	96.21	96.17	96.18	1881
Previous open interest: 40662	Sep 94	96.27	96.27	96.22	96.23	999
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 94	112.40	113.05	111.70	111.92	60291
Previous open interest: 98555	Sep 94				111.42	0

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 80.5 (day's range 80.5-80.6).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 16	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.8247-2.8387	2.8295-2.8330	¹/₈pr-¹/₈ds	par-¹/₈ds
Brussels	51.74-52.08	51.90-52.01	2-6ds	11-17ds
Copenhagen	9.8170-9.8680	9.8460-9.8610	⁵/₈-1⁵/₈ds	2-3⁵/₈ds
Dublin	1.0390-1.0425	1.0391-1.0421	7-9ds	22-27ds
Frankfurt	2.5185-2.5271	2.5196-2.5229	¹/₈-¹/₈ds	³/₈-¹/₈ds
Lisbon	258.44-260.00	258.86-259.49	80-129ds	250-363ds
Madrid	206.21-207.46	206.68-206.98	51-59ds	162-172ds
Milan	2480.70-2491.90	2487.60-2491.60	5-7ds	19-21ds
Montreal	2.0244-2.0344	2.0315-2.0344	0.27-0.22pr	0.45-0.36pr
New York	1.4863-1.4930	1.4920-1.4930	0.23-0.20pr	0.48-0.45pr
Oslo	10.8900-10.9400	10.9200-10.9360	³/₈-¹/₈pr	1-¹/₈pr
Paris	8.5430-8.5930	8.5620-8.5760	³/₈-1ds	³/₈-¹/₈ds
Stockholm	*11.6740-11.7380*	*11.7050-11.7280*	1³/₈-2³/₈ds	5¹/₈-6¹/₈ds
Tokyo	157.32-158.08	157.82-158.08	¹/₂-³/₈pr	1¹/₈-1pr
Vienna	17.68-17.80	17.72-17.76	par-1¹/₈ds	³/₈-2¹/₈ds
Zurich	2.1323-2.1436	2.1372-2.1403	¹/₈-¹/₈pr	³/₈-¹/₈pr

Source: Extel — *Premium - pr. Discount - ds.*

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.4889-1.4914
Australia dollar	2.0782-2.0826
Bahrain dinar	0.556-0.568
Brazil cruzeiro *	1125.87-1127.83
Cyprus pound	0.7525-0.7625
Finland markka	8.1945-8.3105
Greece drachma	364.5-371.5
Hong Kong dollar	11.4864-11.4957
India rupee	46.34-47.30
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4395-0.4495
Malaysia ringgit	4.0528-4.0586
Mexico peso	4.84-4.94
New Zealand dollar	2.5771-2.5834
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5295-5.6555
Singapore dollar	2.3573-2.3605
S Africa rand (fin)	6.7835-6.8830
S Africa rand (com)	5.1450-5.1531
U A E dirham	5.413-5.537

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Australia	1.3976-1.3996
Austria	11.90-11.91
Belgium (Com)	34.92-34.96
Canada	1.3619-1.3628
Denmark	6.6169-6.6219
France	5.765-5.770
Germany	1.6965-1.6975
Hong Kong	7.7246-7.7256
Ireland	1.4301-1.4331
Italy	1673.1-1674.6
Japan	106.03-106.13
Malaysia	2.7255-2.7275
Netherlands	1.9061-1.9071
Norway	7.325-7.330
Portugal	174.2-174.5
Singapore	1.5848-1.5858
Spain	138.75-138.85
Sweden	7.8534-7.8634
Switzerland	1.4342-1.4352

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¼ Finance Hse 5¼
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6 Low 5½ Week fixed: 5¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 4²⁹/₃₂; 3 mth 4⅞. Sell: 2 mth 4²⁹/₃₂; 3 mth: 4⅞.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	4²⁹/₃₂-4²⁷/₃₂	4²⁹/₃₂-4²⁷/₃₂	4²⁹/₃₂-4²⁷/₃₂	4²⁹/₃₂-4²⁷/₃₂	
Sterling Money Rates:	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆
Interbank:	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆

Overnight: open 5¼, close 7.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	5¹/₁₆	n/a	5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆
Sterling CDs:	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆
Dollar CDs:	3.50	n/a	3.76	4.02	4.49
Building Society CDs:	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆	5¹/₁₆-5¹/₁₆

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Feb 28, 1994 Agreed rates Mar 26, 1994 to Apr 25, 1994 *Schemes III: 6.50%.* Reference rate Feb 1, 1994 to Feb 28, 1994 Scheme IV & V: 5.265%.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	3⁵/₁₆-2¹¹/₁₆	3⁵/₁₆-3³/₁₆	3⅞-3¾	4¼-3⅞	3¼-2¾
Deutschemark:	6-5¾	6-5¹³/₁₆	5¹³/₁₆-5¹¹/₁₆	5⅞-5⅝	6¼-5¾
French Franc:	6¹/₁₆-6⁵/₁₆	6⅞-6⅝	6¾-6½	6¹/₁₆-5¹⁵/₁₆	6⅞-6⅜
Swiss Franc:	4¼-4	4⁵/₁₆-4¹/₁₆	4¼-3¹⁵/₁₆	4-3⅝	4¼-3¾
Yen:	2¼-2	2¼-2⅛	2¼-2⅛	2¼-2⅛	2¼-1¾

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $386.90-387.30 Close: $385.70-386.20 High: $386.90-387.30 Low: $384.80-385.30 Krugerrand: $384.75-387.75 (£257.00-259.00)
Sovereigns: Old $90.00-92.00 (£59.75-61.75) New $90.00-92.00 (£59.75-61.75)
Platinum: $401.25 (£269.75) Silver: $5.42 (£3.625) Palladium: $133.25 (£89.60)

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
Alld Lyon	600	34	46½	55	8	25½	32½
(*623)	650	8½	22	32	34½	54½	61
Argyll	240	18	27	30	5	16	20½
(*252)	260	7½	16½	20½	15	27½	31½
ASDA	60	4½	8	9½	4	6	8½
(*60)	70	1½	4½	6	11	13	15
Boots	500	51½	61½	68½	2½	12	17
(*546)	550	14½	29½	40½	18	33½	39
Br Airways	420	21	32½	40½	12	26	32
(*426)	460	4½	15½	24	37½	51	56
BP	330	34	41½	47½	2	9	12½
(*359½)	360	12½	23½	30½	11½	20	25½
Br Steel	140	8	14½	18½	5	11	14
(*142½)	160	2	6½	10	19	23½	26
C & W	450	19	36½	—	14½	39	—
(*453½)	475	8½	25½	—	27	42	—
CU	550	40½	57½	62	4½	14	21½
(*581½)	600	10½	28½	34½	27	36½	47
ICI	750	39½	64	74	11	25½	39½
(*774½)	800	13	37½	49	35	51	64½
Kingfishr	600	27	41½	53	10½	36½	46
(*606½)	650	8	21½	32½	50	67½	75½
Land Sec	700	20½	32	40½	13	32½	36½
(*704½)	750	6	12	21	48½	67	70
M & S	420	15½	24½	32	9	20½	23
(*424)	460	3	9½	16	38	47	48
Nat West	460	46½	60½	69	4	11½	19½
(*498½)	500	17½	36	48	17	27½	36½
Sainsbury	360	23	38½	47	4½	17	21½
(*385)	390	11½	22½	30	16½	32	35½
Shell	650	36	53½	61	5½	15	23½
(*677)	700	7½	26½	34	29½	38	49
Smkl Bch	390	21½	35	46	11	24	32
(*398)	420	8½	22	32	29	40½	49
Storehse	220	13	21	25½	5	15	15½
(*226)	240	4	11	16	17½	25	27
Trafalgar	100	8½	15	—	5½	11	—
(*107½)	115	5	11	—	11½	16½	—
Unilever	1050	35½	58	76½	19½	34	46½
(*1075)	1100	11	36	51½	53½	62	73
Zeneca	700	51	72½	84½	6½	20½	32
(*740)	750	18½	43½	56½	26	41½	59½
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met	460	28	41	51	12½	22	27½
(*475)	500	9½	22	32	35	44½	49½
Ladbroke	200	15	24	30	7½	13	19½
(*206½)	220	6	14½	21	19	24½	31
Utd Bisc	330	16½	25	33	15½	21½	27½
(*337½)	360	6½	13½	21½	39	42½	46½

March 16, 1994 Tot: 37776 Calls: 21765
Puts: 16011 FT-SE Calls: 10804 Puts: 9689
*Underlying security price.

	Series	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Calls Oct	Puts Apr	Puts Jul	Puts Oct
BAA	950	61½	81	99	7	27½	34½
(*997½)	1000	28	51	70½	25½	49½	57½
Thames W	500	40	48½	53½	4	17	21
(*533½)	550	9	19	27	25	45½	49
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAT Ind	460	26	35½	47½	14½	24½	32
(*477½)	500	8½	18	27	42½	49½	56½
BTR	360	32	42	48	6½	11	18
(*383½)	390	13	24½	30½	18	24	32½
Br Aero	500	47½	67	83½	24½	41½	55
(*513½)	550	27	44	61½	59½	69½	81½
Br Telcm	390	32	40½	45	4	13	17
(*415)	420	13½	23	28½	15½	27½	32
Cadbury	493	22½	—	—	13½	—	—
(*499)	542	4½	—	—	47	—	—
Guinness	500	21½	35	45	23	35	42
(*503)	550	3½	17	25	62	69	73½
GEC	300	21½	27	31	5½	13½	17
(*313)	330	7	11½	16½	22	31	34
Hanson	260	24	28	32½	3	6½	10
(*270½)	280	11	16½	21	10	15	19
LASMO	130	11½	17½	22½	11½	16½	21
(*130)	140	7	14	18	18	23	27
Lucas	200	15	24½	29	7½	12	18
(*209)	220	6	14	19	18	23½	29½
Pilkingtn	180	21	26½	30½	4	9	11½
(*195)	200	8½	15	19½	13	18½	21
Prudential	300	27	32	37	6	11	16½
(*323½)	330	9	16½	22½	23	27½	32½
Redland	550	36½	48½	60	19	28	41½
(*577)	600	11½	25½	37½	52	58	70
Royal Ins	260	24½	33½	39½	8	13½	19½
(*274½)	280	13	23	29½	18½	23½	30
Tesco	220	11½	18	24	13	17	22
(*223)	240	4	10½	16	27½	30½	34
Vodafone	550	33	51½	66½	22½	35½	47
(*557)	600	12	30	45	53½	65½	75½
Williams	390	17½	26	33½	16½	23½	30
(*394½)	420	6	13½	21½	38	42	48

FT-SE INDEX (*3242½)

	3100	3150	3200	3250	3300	3350
Calls						
Mar	143	93	45	10	2	½
Apr	158	121	86	58	37	23
May	186	150	119	91	69	48
Jun	204	168	139	110	88	66
Dec	292	—	230	—	178	—
Puts						
Mar	½	1	5	23	66	115
Apr	22	34	50	72	101	137
May	44	57	76	98	126	156
Jun	60	74	94	114	142	172
Dec	129	—	163	—	209	—

	Series	Calls Mar	Calls Jun	Calls Sep	Puts Mar	Puts Jun	Puts Sep
Abby Nat	460	26½	40	51½	1½	12	19
(*483)	500	2	18	31	20	31	39
Amstrad	35	2½	5	7	1½	3½	5
(*36½)	40	1	3	5	5	6½	8
Barclays	550	14½	36	51½	7	23½	36½
(*557)	600	2	15½	31	45½	53	65½
Blue Circ	330	27	33½	43½	1	11½	15½
(*353½)	360	4½	17½	28½	10½	27	34½
Br Gas	300	12	20	24½	2	12	17
(*310½)	330	1	6	11	21½	31½	34½
Dixons	200	15	24	28½	1½	8	15½
(*212½)	220	3	13	19	10½	18	26½
Forte	240	18	23	30	1½	9½	15
(*255½)	260	3½	12	19½	7½	21	25½
Hillsdwn	160	6½	11½	16	2	11½	14
(*164)	180	1½	4	8	18	22	28½
Lonrho	140	18	26	31½	1	7	12½
(*156½)	160	3½	15	22	7	16	22½
Sears	110	10	12½	16	1	4	5½
(*118½)	120	2½	6½	9	3½	9½	11
Thrn Eml	1100	39½	74½	97½	4	29	56½
(*1132)	1150	7	49½	70½	26½	52½	83
Tomkins	240	16½	24½	30	1½	7½	13½
(*254)	260	2	13	19	8½	17	24
TSB	220	19	26½	33	1	5½	11½
(*237½)	240	4	15	22½	6	14	21
Wellcome	600	35	57	80	4½	26	41
(*629)	650	5½	32½	54½	27½	53½	66½
	Series	Apr	Jul	Oct	Apr	Jul	Oct
Glaxo	650	44½	70	84	13½	31	49½
(*676)	700	18	45	60	38½	56½	76
HSBC	800	65	103	125	21½	52	70½
(*859)	850	36½	78½	101	45	76	95
Reuter	2000	67½	141½	185	52½	103	126
(*2007½)	2050	43	115½	159½	79½	127½	150
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
R-Royce	180	15	21½	26	7	12½	17
(*190½)	200	5½	12½	17	18½	23½	28
	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Fisons	130	7	15	23½	3	10	15
(*134)	140	1½	10	19½	8½	16	21
	Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Eastn Elc	600	45½	58	65½	9	24½	32
(*631½)	650	17	31½	40	32½	51	58
	Series	Mar	Jun	Sep	Mar	Jun	Sep
Natl Pwr	460	10½	26½	36½	5	22½	31
(*465)	500	1	11½	20	37½	49	54½
Scot Pwr	390	13½	27½	36½	3½	13	23½
(*399)	420	1½	14½	22½	23	30	40

COMMODITIES

GNI REPORT: The bull run in LCE coffee stalled, despite the fall in US green coffee stocks overnight. However, the main reason for the lacklustre performance was largely worries that the market is overbought following a rise of nearly $100 since the start of the month. Cocoa remains well supported, and although fresh highs were not seen, there is enough support on any dip to encourage a bullish view.

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	952-946	May	1025-1023
May	966-965	Jul	1035-1030
Jul	977-976	Sep	1045-1042
Sep	987-986	Dec	1065-1052
Dec	998-997		
Mar	1015-1013	Volume: 5201	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	1300-1298	Nov	1310-1308
May	1311-1310	Jan	1310-1304
Jul	1313-1312	Mar	1306-1300
Sep	1310-1309	Volume: 5790	

NO.7 PREMIUM RAW SUGAR (6.00pm)

		Jan	unq
Spot: 293.30		Mar	—
May	12.15-12.35	May	—
Jul	12.55-12.75	Jul	—
Sep	11.85-12.05	Volume: 63	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	304.7-02.7
Spot: 338.5		Mar	303.5-01.5
May	333.0-32.4	May	305.4-01.9
Aug	328.2-27.1	Aug	309.3-05.5
Oct	308.0-02.7	Volume: 1601	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 16

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	80.34	135.62	128.31
(+/-)	-2.63	+11.33	+1.65
Eng/Wales:	80.34	134.29	127.88
(+/-)	-2.74	+10.54	+1.94
(%)	-4.6	-5.5	+0.7
Scotland:	n/a	138.56	130.00
(+/-)	n/a	+13.30	+0.58
(%)	n/a	-22.5	-1.4

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (/kg)

	Open	Close		Open	Close
Aug	unq	..	Mar	unq	..
Sep	unq	..		Volume: 0	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)

Mar	104.65
May	106.10
Jun	106.60
Sep	92.90
Nov	93.75
	Volume: 313

BARLEY (close £/t)

Mar	105.00
May	104.90
Sep	93.65
Nov	95.35
Jan	96.65
	Volume: 21

HI-PRO SOYA (close £/t)

Aug	unq
Oct	—
Dec	—
Feb	—
Apr	—
	Volume: 0

POTATO

(£/t)	Open	Close
Apr	185.0	182.5
May	202.0	205.5
Apr	unq	129.8
	Volume: 92	

RUBBER
No 1 RSS Cif (p/k)
Apr 68.25-68.75

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm): News that a shutdown at the Brent Charlie system had been postponed took some heat off the prompt market.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	14.20	-0.05
Brent 15 day (Apr)	13.95	+0.05
Brent 15 day (May)	13.60	n/c
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	14.70	+0.05
W Texas Intermediate (May)	14.70	n/c

PRODUCTS ($/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas .15	149 (+3)	151 (+3)
Gasoil EEC	137 (-2)	138 (-2)
Non EEC 1H Apr	*139 (-1)*	*141 (-1)*
Non EEC 1H May	138 (-1)	140 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	76 (-1)	78 (-1)
Naphtha	133 (n/c)	135 (+1)

IPE FUTURES
GNI Ltd

GAS OIL

Apr	137.25-37.50	Jul	138.50-38.75
May	136.50-36.75	Aug	140.25-40.50
Jun	137.00-37.25	Sep	142.50-42.75
			Vol: 11310

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	14.04-14.05	Jul	13.66 BID
May	13.61-13.63	Aug	13.76 SLR
Jun	13.58-13.60		Vol: 39807

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Apr	149.50-50.50	Jul	n/a
May	151.00-53.00	Aug	n/a
Jun	154.00 SLR		Vol: 10

BIFFEX
GNI Ltd ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Apr 94	1260	1240	1250
May 94	1255	1240	1249
Jul 94	1135	1125	1140
Oct 94	unq	unq	1277

Vol: 214 lots. Open int'st: 2723 Index 1134 +5

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE Rudolf Wolff

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1953.0-1954.0	1962.5-1963.5	1816775
Lead ($/tonne)	457.00-458.00	472.00-473.00	131550
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	931.00-931.50	951.00-951.50	616600
Tin ($/tonne)	5435.0-5440.0	5480.0-5485.0	27210
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	*1291.0-1291.5*	*1315.0-1315.5*	*1345825*
Nickel ($/tonne)	5535.0-5545.0	5605.0-5610.0	73914

ECONOMIC VIEW

How interest rates can rise and fall at the same time

Anatole Kaletsky explains why short and long-term interest rates can travel in opposite directions

Interest rates will almost certainly fall further in Britain and will certainly do so in the rest of Europe. In Britain, the next step down is likely to come as early as next week, assuming that next Wednesday's inflation figures are as low as today's weak retail sales statistics suggested.

Interest rates will almost certainly rise further in Britain and will certainly do so in the rest of Europe. In Britain, the next step up is likely to come as early as next week, assuming that next Wednesday's inflation figures are as high as today's strong unemployment figures suggested.

I strongly believe that both the above statements are true. But before you start begging, like President Truman, for a one-armed economist, let me explain that I am not about to present some weaselly ambidextrous argument along the lines of "interest rates could rise in the near future but, on the other hand, they could equally well fall". There is nothing ambivalent about my view. I believe that interest rates will both rise and fall in the weeks ahead. And if you think that sounds illogical, let me congratulate you: you are probably a very lucky person, since several of the people I have recently met who hold your views are earning several hundred million dollars annually running New York-based hedge funds.

As far as I can ascertain, most of the leading hedge-fund operators believe it is impossible for interest rates to rise and fall at the same time — and since everyone knows that the Bundesbank will continue salami-slicing the German discount rate throughout the year ahead, it follows that financial speculators will continue to enjoy a licence to print money by simply investing in German and other European bonds and waiting for their yields to fall.

There is, of course, a logical flaw in this argument, as there is in every blueprint for a financial perpetual-motion machine. The flaw is that long-term interest rates can sometimes rise, and rise sharply, even as short-term rates fall. This is exactly what has been happening in Europe since Christmas, to the horror of bond and stockmarket investors — and what will continue to happen in the months ahead, if my analysis is right.

When I last wrote about this subject two weeks ago, it was generally assumed by investors that February's jump in long-term rates was just an aberration, and that bond prices would soon return to their pre-collapse levels after the hedge funds and other speculators were squeezed out. I make no apology for returning so soon to this subject, because the course of interest rats is of vital importance not only to financial investors, but also to businessmen and homeowners. Yet the confusion seems to be growing daily between the excellent prospects for short rates, which are determined by central banks or governments, and the gloomier prospects for long rates, which bond markets set.

The facts have been neatly laid out in the March issue of the *International Economics Analyst* from Goldman Sachs. Between the trough of the European bond yields around Christmas and the most recent peak on March 3, the ten-year rate of interest increased in Germany by 0.66 percentage points (described as 66 basis points by the professionals), by 78 basis points in France and by around 100 basis points in Britain, Italy and Spain. During the same period, three-month interest rates have *fallen* by between 10 and 25 basis points in all of these countries. Why, then, have short and long rates started to move in opposite directions and how long can these divergent trends continue? These are the $64 billion questions now obsessing everyone in the world financial markets, yet it is surprising how much confusion there seems to be in this debate. Four possible reasons are usually given for the recent increase in long-term interest rates in Europe: there may be growing concern about inflation; there may be increasing credit demand as European economies start to recover; there may be some other shift in the balance of supply and demand in European bond markets; or, finally, the rise in rates may be simply an emotional over-reactin to the localised tightening of *American* monetary policy undertaken last month by the Federal Reserve.

Most analysts, who remain overwhelmingly bullish, especially about the prospects for further declines in German and French bond rates, dismiss the first possible explanation on the reasonable grounds that inflation prospects have improved in Europe in the past few months. The worry about European economic recovery is also far-fetched. Although some recent figures suggested demand is finally starting to pick up in Germany and France, both these economies will remain far below their long-term growth paths for at least another two years. The main financial problem in both countries is too much private sector saving, not too much credit demand.

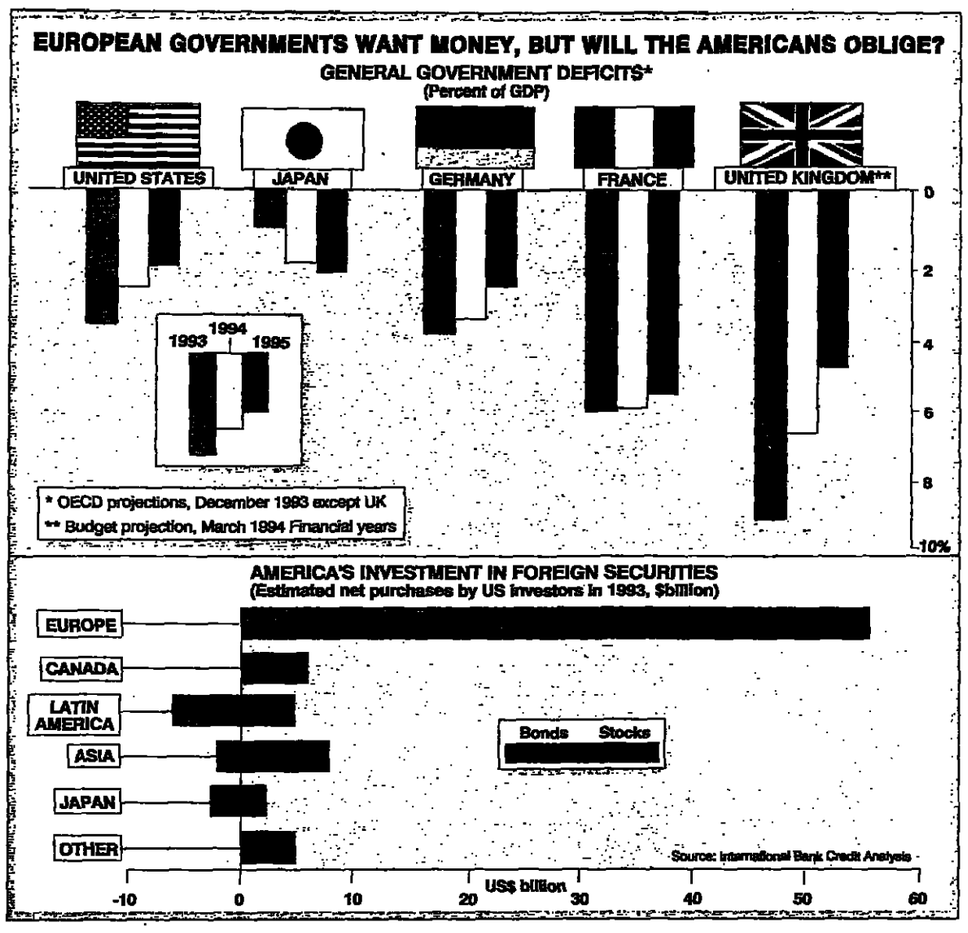
Nevertheless, the third argument, about the balance of supply and demand in European bond markets, has to be taken seriously. Even though private credit demand may remain weak in Europe, government borrowing has risen sharply and will remain extremely high by international standards, even as the European economies begin to recover in the 18 months ahead. As shown in te top chart, France is now the worst offender and, despite the levelling out of deficits shown in official projections, shrewd observers of French politics are starting to suspect that deficits are more likely to rise further than to fall as the government caves in to interest groups before the presidential election.

Meanwhile, the supply of funds is also drying up. As shown in the bottom chart, from the March International Bank Credit Analyst, last year saw an astonishing upsurge in European bonds investment from America. That bubble, blown up by the hedge funds, seems now to have been pricked. But why? This brings us to the fourth explanation for gloom among European bond investors — rising American interest rates and over-excitable financial markets. The many remaining bulls in Europe turn this point on its head. They say that Europe will soon "decouple" itself from the rising interest rate trend in American. This decoupling is perfectly possible for short-term rates, which are determined by central banks in the money markets. Indeed, the decoupling i likely to continue next week, as Britain and other European countries continue to reduce their short rates, while the Fed raises US rates by at least another quarter point. But sadly for European bond investors, the decoupling argument for long-term interest rates rests on a fallacy that goes to the very heart of the structure of integrated global financial markets.

The fallacy is this: if German ten-year bonds yield 5.5 per cent, as they did in December, while American ten-year bonds yield 6.4 per cent, as they do today, an all-important condition has to be satisfied in the currency markets. Currency investors have to expect that the Deutschmark will rise substantially against the dollar over the next ten years, to make up the shortfall in the German bond's yield. (Some moderately complicated arithmetic shows the required rise in the mark to be around 15 per cent). To satisfy this condition, the mark, along with the franc and other low-yielding European currencies, has to be at an unsustainably *low* level against the dollar. But the trouble is that the mark today is generally considered to be too *high* against the dollar, not too low.

The only way for Germany and France to decouple from American bond rates is to allow — in fact to encourage — a sharp depreciation in their currencies against the dollar. If Germany and France want to return to sub-six per cent bond yields, the mark and the franc must become so undervalued that investors expect them to rise substantially against the dollar in the years ahead. And th only sure way to achieve that would be for the Bundesbank to abandon its salami tactics in the money markets and slash short-term interest rapidly to below the American level. Such a policy, however, would be inimical to the Bundesbank as well as unwelcome in Washington, where officials are glorying in the benefits of a cheap dollar.

For Britain, Italy, Spain and other European countries that still have much higher long-term interest rates than America, decoupling from rising US rates is a realistic option. First, however, they will have to cut their short-term interest rates sharply to decouple themselves more thoroughly from the mark and the rest of the ERM.



TEMPUS

Paper Coats

COATS has some cheek, hitting shareholders with its third enhanced scrip dividend. Last year, the group said the first two issues were one-offs. Now, it seems, the tax advantages are just too tempting and shareholders are likely to be hit with another ream of paper at the interim stage, judging by the group's request that the operation be approved for a full year.

Coats's figures were hardly outstanding enough to warrant such a steady increase in its capital base. Headline operating profits may have shown a 17 per cent increase, but there is actually a 3.6 per cent underlying fall once the effects of exchange rates and acquisitions are discounted.

Given the lack of organic growth, it is hard to escape the conclusion that Coats has squeezed the last benefits from Tootal and must now cast around for new acquisitive areas of growth. So it is disturbing that the group plans only in-fill acquisitions overseas in the current year. Coats has the resources for a larger move, since the latest enhanced scrip will cut debt to less than £200 million and gearing to less than a quarter. Coats's scrips are only massaging its essential tax problem — that it does not make enough profit in Britain to utilise almost £100 million in unrelieved ACT. Only a large acquisition at home would give the group access to this.

With the downturn in continental Europe continuing and the recent hike in cotton prices putting further pressure on thread margins, the shares look unlikely to bounce back quickly from yesterday's 7.5 per cent fall, and Coats may be forced to issue more shares in its latest enhanced scrip than it expected.

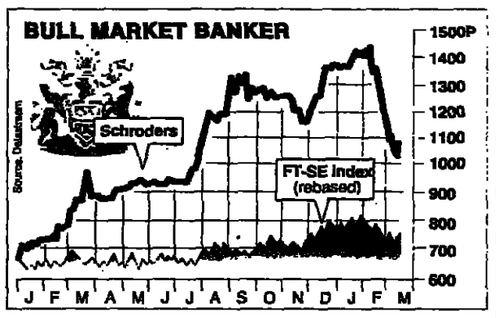
Schroders

BULL market statisticians will be disappointed that Schroders was evicted from the FT-SE 100 index. Its 50 per cent increase in last year's dividend would have put some gloss on the income figures for the index.

In isolation such an increase appears to verge on the extravagant. To be honest, Schroders could hardly have escaped with a smaller pay-out considering the wealth of inner reserves it has been forced to reveal. Dividend cover has meanwhile risen from 4.9 to 6.6 times.

The dividend increase is also Schroders' way of emphasising that its higher profits are sustainable. The bank looks more resilient to a market downturn than its rivals since only 13 per cent of operating income came from dealing profits. Now it has revealed its inner wealth, Schroders could be accused of being over-capitalised. But the bank is still achieving a 21 per cent post-tax return. The cash also gives Schroders the flexibility to expand and look at acquisitions, such as the 50 per cent of Wertheim Schroder still held by its management. Schroders may mop this up at a cost of perhaps $200-$300 million.

The shares have been knocked since the fall in world markets and Schroders exit from the FT-SE 100. Now, on 11 times historic earnings they look cheap for such quality, even if the bank struggles to repeat last year's performance.



Marley

MARLEY is understandably aggrieved that the accounting standards on the sale of earlier acquisitions, designed to catch out the kind of fly-by-night operators that gave expansion a bad name a few years ago, have badly mauled its 1993 figures, which do show the first benefits of earlier cost-cutting along with the first swallows of economic spring.

Too bad. Those are the rules, and everyone has to play by them. But it is hard to believe that many investors will have been fooled for long by the headline losses, caused by the £33 million goodwill write-off from last October's bricks for clay tiles swap with Tarmac. If they look no further, the optimistic tone to the annual statement should reassure them that the group is indeed moving forward at a decent pace. Better still, the current year will see a further kicker from earlier cost-savings as well as price increases of 5 to 7 per cent on much of the firm's product range that were instigated in the first months of this year and appear to be sticking. 1993 was clearly an *annus mirabilis* not least because Marley ended up, after four years of recession, with more staff on the books than at the start.

The company will not have to push too hard to reach a pre-tax figure of £42 million this year, with no further problems from FRS2, which would put the shares on a little over 20 times' earnings. Although the inclination not to raise the dividend this year seems stingy, the shares look good long-term value.

Premier

PREMIER Consolidated Oilfields seems to have a penchant for exploration work in politically contentious areas of the world. The company is active in Cuba, Albania, China, Cambodia and Burma, where it recently scored a drilling success which might lead to a commercially viable gas project. Premier's taste for countries which other companies are seldom prepared to touch has underlying commercial logic as well as gung-ho frontiersmanship. Being one of the few means there is limited competition for concessions.

The rate of flow from the new Burmese well raises the chances that the field will be large enough to generate a gas flow of 250 million cubic feet per day over a long enough period, 10 to 15 years, to justify a deal to supply a power station in Thailand. But getting the gas from impoverished Burma to its booming neighbour will require building a 190 mile pipeline.

Given the scale of the required investment, the likely scenario for Premier could be a profitable sale of all or part of its 30 per cent interest when the project nears fruition.

Possible earnings from Burmese gas may have to wait until the end of the century. In the near term, Premier's fortunes are tied up in offshore developments at Wytch Farm in Dorset, a project which has helped keep Premier's finding costs low. UK assets and Pakistan gas should help to boost production over the next two years, but Premier's share price is already highly inflated by distant hopes of profits from Far Eastern gas.

BUSINESS LETTER

Money madness

From Adrian Cosker

Sir, Mr Kaletsky's article (March 10) pointing out the damaging effects of any country artificially propping up its exchange rate is long overdue and, among other things, may serve to refocus the debate about "Euro-sclerosis", because, if Mr Kaletsky's proposition is correct, Europe's supposed lack of competitiveness can just as fairly be blamed on a general overvaluation of EU currencies as it can on the excessively generous and expensive welfare provision for its workers to which it is often attributed.

This overvaluation is, of course, consequent upon the ERM binding the other European currencies to the German mark, the value of which has been boosted by high interest rates imposed for the purely domestic reasons associated with German unity. There is great irony in this, for it is Germany which provides one of the most striking recent examples of just how catastrophic over-valued exchange rates can be: when Germany was united and the East German mark was suddenly raised to the same value as the West German mark, a major part of East Germany's industry was priced out of existence. (Mercifully, the danger of Britain repeating this mistake and joining a single European currency at an overvalued rate has receded, although no thanks to the current deputy governor of the Bank of England, who, I recall, advocated Britain's immediate joining of a united currency as the best response to the crisis that forced us out of the ERM.)

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN COSKER,
The Knights Templar School,
Park Street,
Baldock, Hertfordshire.

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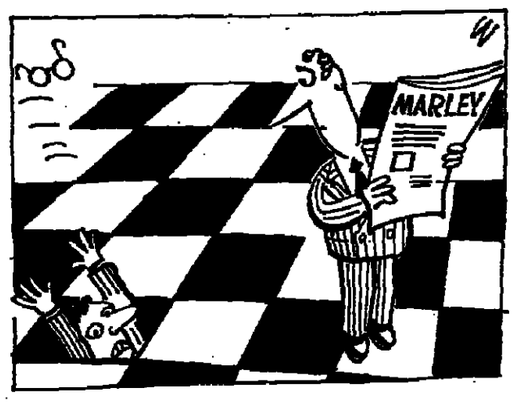
THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Discount drinker

MANY happy returns to Hans Holtermann, a legendary City character who celebrates his 56th birthday today and will, in the process, be tapping in to one of the Square Mile's best-kept secrets. Holtermann, who has worked at stockbrokers UBS, CSFB and SBC in his time, makes a tradition of visiting each of London's Corney & Barrow bars on his birthday — not out of any particular loyalty to the chain, but because of a special birthday deal by which anyone who is celebrating their big day is offered their age as a percentage off the first bottle of champagne they buy. It dawned on Holtermann one day that each of Corney & Barrow's seven bars would be obliged to go along with the offer, and so it is that he will spend today drinking £69.95 bottles of Krug at a mere £30.95 each. "The oldest person we've had in so far was 78," said a spokesman for Corney & Barrow. "We're still waiting for a 100-year-old to come in." Now there's an invitation . . . .

Armless old lady

WHOOPS! The new Yellow Pages directory for York and Scarborough has accidentally listed the address of a 71-year-old pensioner as that of a local gun dealer. Margaret Enna, who lives in the Scarborough suburb of Scalby, has been fending off calls and letters from people enquiring about her range of weapons. "I think people can tell as soon as they see me that I'm not into guns," she says. "Anyway, I've got my dogs to look after me." High Noon for Yellow Pages?



Rackets out, chaps

BUDDING Agassis and Grafs have until the end of the month to sign up for the Nomura Inter-Company Tennis Challenge, an annual clash that gives non-professional City players a taste of real competition. Paul Hutchins, the former Davis Cup player and Lawn Tennis Association national team manager who is organising the event, says the big question is whether Lehman Brothers, who lost in the men's final to CT Bowring last year, will be fielding a team. British Airways, Lonrho, Barings are among dozens of entrants — even the DTI has signed up — but no Lehmans, although I am assured they will be signing imminently. Entries are restricted to the London area. This year's final will take place at the exclusive Riverside Racquet Centre in West London. For information, call Hutchins on (081) 946 9374.

Take your partners

FOR shy souls who want to keep their efforts to master *Strictly Ballroom* strictly private comes a new package from Dorling Kindersley, the quoted publishing and multimedia group. After the success of the film, the company has produced a ballroom dancing pack incorporating CD, step pattern cards, and accompanying book comprising 200 photographs of dance sequences featuring, among others, Walter Laird, the former world champion. Given people's natural embarrassment at displaying their ungainliness at public dancing lessons, Dorling believes the cha-cha-chances of success for the product are good.

Boy racer

DEALERS at Smith New Court have been doing their best to avoid Crispian Besley, 35-year-old head of the firm's Japanese broking operation. The root of the problem is an extremely fast Ferrari 308, a beast that he enjoys racing in his spare time, and one that requires quite a bit of sponsorship money, £60,000 a year to be precise. Besley is two-thirds of the way there, thanks to companies like HR Owen, Gerald Ronson's car dealership, but time is running out, with the first race of the season on April 9. So any companies who fancy seeing their names up in lights should give him a ring.

PANIC in the newsroom when the headline: "Department of Trade and Industry — Statement re Independent Newspapers" flashed up on the company news service. The panic was short-lived. This was Independent Newspapers of Ireland buying some local London newspapers, not quite what we expected.

JON ASHWORTH

Insurer's shares rise after leap in profits

BY SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

SHARES of Independent Insurance moved further ahead of November's flotation price yesterday on news of a sharp improvement in profitability.

Pre-tax profits for the year to December 31 rose to £15.8 million, from £3.7 million, and the shares climbed 5p to 295p, gaining further ground from the issue price of 225p. As forecast at flotation, the final dividend was 4.75p, making a total for the year of 8.25p, compared with 7p last time.

Profits benefited from a fall in the provision against stop-loss insurance provided to Lloyd's names in 1989 and 1990. Independent put aside £5.2 million in 1993, compared to £8.5 million last time. No further losses will be incurred.

The motor account lifted underwriting profits from £1.9 million to £2.1 million but Michael Bright, chief executive, highlighted increasing competitive pressures on private motor car insurance.

The commercial account recovered from a loss of £600,000 last time to a profit of £300,000 in spite of a further strengthening of reserves to meet future claims. Investment income rose from £7 million to £8.3 million, helped by last year's flotation, which raised £25.1 million.

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Nimble ICL retains sole footing in profit league

BY ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

ICL has kept its title as Europe's only profitable maker of mainstream computers despite beginning new restructuring to increase its agility.

Although the information revolution continues to leave rivals such as IBM, Siemens Nixdorf, Olivetti and Bull floundering, ICL recorded pre-tax profits of £23.4 million for the year to December, down from £38.6 million.

The tiny profit margin on sales, up by 6 per cent, to £2.62 billion, indicates the difficulties traditional computer companies face in adapting to the spread of inter-linked microcomputers in place of big mainframes. It also shows the nimbleness of Britain's former national champion compared with rivals in the US, Germany, Italy and France.

ICL appears to have benefited hugely from alliance with Fujitsu, the world's second-largest computer maker, after IBM. Since acquiring 80 per cent of ICL in 1990, Fujitsu has let the company retain operating independence, while sharing lessons of technology and organisation. The presence of Northern Telecom of Canada, with the remaining 20 per cent of shares, has obliged ICL to apply strict financial disciplines rather than lean on its twin shareholders for money.

Fujitsu remains commited to refloating a minority of ICL shares on the London Stock Exchange, but Peter Bonfield, ICL's chairman and chief executive, said that, in the light of yesterday's results, this was unlikely before 1996 or 1997. "Fujitsu are not going to tart the company up for a float," he said. "There has to be a sustainable share value."

ICL's directors would like the freedom of a listing to strengthen its balance sheet, to permit cheaper acquisitions, to make employee share incentive schemes more meaningful and for the publicity benefit.

However, they know that they must first secure a record of rising profits. To that end, they have sped up reshaping of the company. A flatter, more organic structure, based on the three business streams — industry systems, services and technology — is designed to allow a more flexible response to markets.

For all its size, ICL is increasingly a software and services business. Sales of mainframes and associated equipment now account for just 10 per cent of revenues, against almost a third when Fujitsu took over and 70 per cent a decade ago. However, in providing computing and software solutions to industry, commerce and public administration, small and still more agile rivals offer a formidable challenge. Success for Fujitsu will lie in identifying growth markets where size offers an advantage, and leaving those where it does not. The rise in rationalisation spending last year, to £47.7 million, and a 1,500 reduction in staff, to 24,000, show the pressures.



Peter Bonfield, ICL chairman, is waiting for the right time to relist

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

BRITISH MOHAIR (Fin)
Pre-tax: £1.47m (£2.1m)
EPS: 7.39p (10.8p)
Div: 7.1p, mkg 8.5p
Dividend in previous year was 8.5p. Early indication of demand for mohair yarns has improved and raw material prices have edged up

LAMBERT HOW'TH (Fin)
Pre-tax: £1.42m (£2.99m)
EPS: 24.9p (39.2m)
Div: 9.25p, mkg 13.75p
Dividend in previous year was 13p. Turnover rose to £62.62 million from £56.6 million. Second half will see some benefit from restructuring

MERIVALE MOORE (Int)
Pre-tax: £238,000
EPS: 0.65p (17.8p loss)
Div: Nil (nil)
There was a £2.6 million loss previously. Turnover was £4.77 million, reduced from £11.67 million

SLEEPY KIDS (Fin)
Pre-tax: £89,235
EPS: 0.33p (1.52p loss)
Div: Nil (nil)
Loss in previous year was £356,243. Turnover rose to £262,696 from £88,293. Transylvania Pet Shop due for broadcast on ITV from June

WESCOL GROUP (Int)
Pre-tax: £30,000
EPS: 0.1p (0.1p)
Div: Nil (nil)
Previous interim profits were £13,000. Company expects to recommend small dividend for the year

WSP GROUP (Fin)
Pre-tax: £262,000
EPS: 1.9p (3.8p)
Div: 0.9p, mkg 1.8p
Profit in previous year was £560,000 and dividend was 2p. Dr Martin Wyatt has resigned as a director of the company

Past catches up with Marley but future looks good

BY MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

MARLEY, encouraged by the rise in house building and optimistic forecasts and orders from its customers among the big builders, believes the recession is over.

Trading profits for 1993 from Marley, whose chairman is Sir George Russell, showed a substantial improvement, powered by cost cuts. At the operating level, profits were ahead by 55 per cent to £41.5 million last year after a return to profit in both concrete and clay products and UK operations.

However, the picture from the 1993 results was marred by the latest accounting standards, which require Marley, which is one of Britain's biggest building materials companies, to show a thumping pre-tax loss as a result of October's deal to swap Marley's loss-making brick operations along with £3 million in cash for Tarmac's clay tile business. Hawkins Tiles. Marley was required to reduce its profit and loss account by the goodwill on those businesses previously written off to reserves when they were acquired in the late 1980s.

The write-off of £32.8 million, therefore, left pre-tax losses of £1.1 million, against profits of £4.6 million in 1992. Although the market had been expecting the provision and analysts were encouraged by the trading performance, Marley shares fell 9p to 196p. Brokers said the fall, along with a subsiding stock market, came after Marley gained 5p on Tuesday on the back of better-than-expected figures from another building materials firm, Wolseley.

Marley is maintaining a total dividend payment of 4.2p with a final of 2.1p. David Trapnell, chief executive, said the company did not anticipate raising the dividend again this year.

Mr Trapnell said the building industry was putting the recession behind it, and trading in the current year was in line with expectations and ahead of the same period of 1993. Meanwhile, the company has set up a working party to decide the best way of developing its involvement in the emerging markets of Eastern Europe, whether by acquisition, greenfield start-ups or by joint venture.

Tempus, page 27



Russell: better prospects

THE TIMES Mees Pierson Corporate Golf Challenge

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UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OXFORD COLLEGE ACCOUNTANT

The College wishes to appoint an Accountant who, reporting to the Estates Bursar, carries responsibility for the College's accounts and provides financial information. Experience with computerised accounting is essential and candidates should be qualified accountants or possess relevant experience.

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ACCOUNTANCY

When relationships count

BY ISOBEL SHARP

THE Accounting Standards Board has sent out a draft invitation to accountants to start looking for parties, at least related parties. At a mere 24 paragraphs, albeit with one paragraph running to three pages, this draft accounting standard, codenamed FRED8, is almost in danger of being read.

It should also become a standard in the near future. First, there is political pressure on the ASB to issue this, in the wake of certain recent financial scandals. Who said Robert Maxwell? Second, there is the question of international harmonisation. On this particular topic, the UK is rather tardy — an international standard on related party disclosure was issued a decade ago.

FRED8 will require disclosure of material transactions between a company and its related parties. It will be necessary to give the names of the related parties, a description of the relationship between the parties, a description of the transactions, the amounts involved and any amounts due to or from related parties at the balance sheet date and any other elements of the transactions necessary for an understanding of the financial statements.

In addition, if another party has the ability to control a company, the name of that party must be given. Thus dominating influences, be they individuals, partnerships, trusts, companies or others, will be visible.

Preparers of company accounts will have to take care here. If they are identified as controlling parties for FRED8 purposes, they may have to consolidate the controlled entity to comply with other accounting standards.

But will users of financial statements want this information? Probably, yes. The new accounting standard could generate that new interesting disclosure. The problem will be distinguishing the interesting in the incessant innocent disclosures.

FRED8, with its complex definition of a related party, will require preparers and auditors to delve into the personal lives of company directors and other key managers. Their spouses, parents, children, brothers and sisters (and all their spouses) as well as other members of the same household (eg the butler?) are deemed to be related parties. Thus material transactions with any of the above are disclosable.

This is likely to impact more on the smaller family companies. They often trade with other companies owned by the same shareholders or other members of the extended family. The FRED particularly seeks comments on whether small companies should be exempt, particularly given that their abbreviated financial statements for public filing will not be required to disclose this information in any event. For larger companies, the question is whether users already receive the interesting information.



Isobel Sharp says FRED8 will act as an amber light

Company law, certain accounting pronouncements and the Stock Exchange's *Yellow Book* already call for a long list of disclosures about directors, connected persons, shadow directors, subsidiaries, parent companies, associated companies and significant investments. The proof of that is seen daily in the laborious disclosures in annual reports.

The financial statements issued by the Maxwell public companies prior to November 1991 were also littered with references to the substantial shareholdings of the Maxwell Foundation and to trading relationships with related companies.

If an accounting standard based on FRED8 had been in place then, a few more points may well have been considered for potential disclosures. However, whether they would constitute material transactions, that is those likely to influence decisions made by the users of the financial statements, is perhaps unlikely.

Furthermore, many of the Maxwell transactions that are now being questioned occurred within a relatively short period in 1991, between publication dates of the annual financial statements. An accounting standard alone could not have stopped the transactions.

So the ASB is correct to warn us that this FRED will not act as a red light. It is merely a useful amber — provided, of course, we spot the traffic lights!

The author is technical partner at BDO Binder Hamlyn

The same old story comes round again

NEXT Monday, the leaders of the profession meet to discuss what over the years must have seemed a depressingly recurrent document. It is, of course, the latest blueprint for merging, taking over or, as they would put it, rationalising the six bodies that make up the UK accounting profession.

By now the whole process is so mired in folk memory, recriminations and squabbles as to have lost its central meaning for most people. It has all been tried before. As far back as 1970, the idea of merging all the bodies together was tried, and failed. In 1989, the alternative method of trying to merge two bodies for a start was tried, and failed. Other variants have been tried endlessly over the years and have had varying degrees of success, ranging from failing before secret talks could progress out of a committee to failing because the membership of the English ICA could not stomach the idea of taking the members of CIPFA, the public sector body, into their fold. The 1989 effort to create a British institute out of the existing English and Scots ICAs was probably the most significant and is also the key to the new proposals. Popular sentiment suggests that it failed because the unruly Scots would have nothing of a takeover by the untrustworthy English. But the real reasons for failure are less obvious. Then, as now, there was support for the broad principle of some kind of rationalisation within the profession. Then, as now, when it came to the details people were much less sure. And were then open to arguments of a more sentimental kind.



ROBERT BRUCE

This time, the English ICA says, it is different. The problem is that no one can quite see precisely what is different. In Scotland, memories of 1989 are still sharp and the merest mention of rationalisation provokes immediate growling noises and a retreat within the castle walls. And for all six accounting bodies the creation of the Consultative Committee of Accountancy Bodies, (CCAB), as an umbrella body after the collapse of the 1970 merger efforts has meant they all have much stronger views of their own identities and strengths.

So where is the motivation? The two behind the current effort are the English ICA and CIMA, the management accounting body. The others are lukewarm. Assuming next Monday's CCAB meeting votes to release the bare bones of its working party's report, two of them, the Scots and the Certified accountants will only send it out to their members along with documents showing that they profoundly disagree and giving alternative plans. Indeed the Certified president will tell his annual dinner tonight that the plan simply will not work. Even the CCAB documentation will be minimal, to say the least. It is proposed to send members the basic report with the 12 principles it feels would need to be adopted if the profession were to be restructured. What it is not going to send is the detailed report showing how it would work.

The plan would be to create three new accounting bodies based geographically on the institute of chartered accountants in England and Wales, of Scotland and in Ireland. Existing members of the others bodies would join the geographically appropriate body. Everyone would be called simply a "chartered accountant". The confusions will come later with arguments over how far functional streams, like tax faculties, will be able to vote for council members and how far bodies like CIPFA will be able to vote for a guaranteed number of seats on a governing council. The end result would be an enormous accounting body run from London and would have severe problems in keeping as close as necessary to its members. It would also cost a fortune. The CCAB working party says it has done no work on likely cost. And, despite English institute assurances that it will spend a fortune on market research to get it right, history suggests its members will not vote to share their qualification and rights with other bodies' members in far-off third world countries.

So it all comes down to motivation again. Rumours are rife about a highly secret document buried deep within the English institute. It forecasts a steady drop in student numbers, and hence income, allied with a huge rise in regulatory-fuelled costs. The two lines on the graph are reputed to cross in about five years. The only answer is to go for a centralised and dominant body which can, in time, pull the profession back to its elitist and exclusive past.

Rumours may not be true. But it is about the only reason which makes sense of the English ICA's determination to push rationalisation through at such a profoundly inopportune time.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Laughing all the way to the bank

LET no-one accuse Pannell Kerr Forster of lacking a sense of humour. The firm's corporate recovery & insolvency services department has issued a booklet in which senior staff are portrayed as cartoon figures with commentary to match. Edwin Kirker, a London partner, appears as a pilot — he was receiver to Iraqi Airways after the Gulf War. Fellow partner Stewart Baird appears on a beach with bucket and spade, John Alexander, who acquired "ownership" of world heavyweight boxing champion Lennox Lewis after the demise of Roger Levitt's empire appears with the Empire State Building — not, as one might fear, a black eye — and Peter Campbell, managing partner of the Aberdeen practice, is pictured fishing on a beach in Port Stanley, watched by a group of penguins. He is principal auditor to the Falklands' government. The brochure also discloses London PKF partners earn £150-£195 an hour, dropping to £80-£144 an hour nationally.

First class mail

POSTAL services appear to be lax, to say the least, within the English ICA's headquarters at Moorgate Place. Its auditing committee, I hear, took exception to the Auditing Practices Board's proposed standard, which assumed that when directors sign a set of accounts they are doing so in the belief that they will still be there in a year's time. Suitably outraged, it fired off a disparaging response from its offices on the seventh floor. The note finally made it to the APB office on the next floor — 11 days later.

Matter of principle

THE Bishop working party on rationalisation tried hard to keep its broad proposals within the 12 secret principles that go forward to the profession's leaders for ratification on Monday. But I gather that it had to resort to creative accounting to do so. So complex was principle number 11 that it spawned several subclauses: 11 (a), (b), (c) and (d).

Prospects for financial and accounting staff are looking up. The number of UK companies likely to recruit specialist staff has more than doubled to 35 per cent since the last quarter of 1993, says a survey by Robert Half International.

JON ASHWORTH

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Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	189.40	200.00†	+0.80	5.78
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.62	99.94†	+0.43	5.78
Nth America	261.30	278.00	+1.30	...
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Brit Fndmnts Acc	101.30	107.80†	...	4.16
Brit Fndmnts Inc	75.98	80.84†	+0.07	4.16
Global Opps	86.87	92.42	-0.32	...
Balanced Acc	54.77	58.27†	-0.03	2.35
Balanced Inc	54.28	57.75†	-0.03	2.35
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 80 Holdenhurst Rd, Bournemouth 0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	135.50	143.80†	+1.00	5.56
High Inc Equity	173.50	184.60	+0.70	3.94
Worldwide Bond	273.80	290.30†	+1.10	3.62
Capital Growth				
American Growth	310.30	331.90	+1.40	.35
Asian Pacific	348.20	372.40	-1.80	...
Assets & Earnings	280.30	298.20	+1.50	1.59
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General	236.80	251.90†	+1.10	2.16
Japan	134.60	144.00	+1.00	...
Mastertrust	148.30	158.60	-0.50	.83
UK Growth Dist	142.90	152.80	-5.00	1.58
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Income & Growth	403.30	429.00	+1.50	3.06
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Exempt	1081.9	1136.9	-2.80	3.34
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Fixed Interest	25.80	27.54†	-0.07	6.67
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Specialist Trusts				
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Energy	444.80	484.20	+2.70	0.22
Europe	239.50	254.50	+0.60	0.46
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Income Gwth	366.70	391.40†	+0.50	3.89
Japan	346.70	368.80	+2.30	...
Pacific	111.80	118.90	-0.20	0.67
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Japan Fd	803.10	826.50	+3.80	...
Mngd Fd	179.30	190.80	-0.10	2.63
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500.00	485.60	519.40†	+0.70	1.97
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Trustee	192.30	205.70	+0.80	1.51
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Smllr Cos Inc	45.93	49.26	-0.01	1.70
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America	137.50	145.90	+1.80	0.14
Aust Acc	272.30	289.60	-1.20	1.54
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Euro Gwth Inc	149.40	158.30	+1.20	0.35
Japan & Gen Inc	196.20	207.20†	+1.90	...
Japan Spec Sits	86.76	91.91	+0.75	...
Unit Tech Inc	80.40	85.44	+0.17	0.38
Worldwide	181.60	192.80	+0.40	0.26
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD PO Box 156, Beckenham, Kent BR3 4XQ 081 658 9002				
American Growth	104.70	110.90	+0.80	...
Amer Smllr Cos	140.90	150.70	+2.20	...
Cash Trust	50.68	50.68	...	4.90
Convertibles	63.02	67.40†	-0.31	5.80
Eastern	281.60	304.00	-2.20	1.60
Equity Income	92.69	98.81	...	4.90
European Growth	300.70	319.50	+0.70	1.50
Europe	217.80	232.10	+0.80	1.50
German Growth	71.56	76.17	-0.21	0.70
Global Bond	67.49	71.26	+0.26	5.30
Global Growth	133.50	142.50	+0.50	...
Japan Growth	226.60	243.20	+2.20	...
Japan Sunrise	192.00	205.40	-1.30	...
Korea Trust	79.55	88.43	-0.39	...
Portfolio	137.70	147.00†	...	3.60
UK Growth	96.73	102.90	...	2.60
UK Smaller Cos	101.60	108.60	+0.30	1.80
Select Managers	77.39	82.98	+0.13	2.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD 26-34 Old Street, London EC1V 9HL 071 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	82.81	88.10	...	...
Special Oppor Inc	56.66	60.28†	...	...
BREWIN DOLPHIN UT MGRS LTD 5 Giltspur St, London EC1A 9DE 071 236 6441				
Special Sits	184.90	197.90	-1.90	0.47
Dividend	83.70	89.52†	+0.03	3.81
Int Gth & Inc	226.10	241.80	-0.60	2.49
UK & Gen	46.05	49.25†	-0.15	1.52
Fund of Funds	68.45	73.21†	+0.15	...
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD 50 Bothwell Street, Glasgow G2 6HR 041 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	111.50	117.99	-0.20	1.27
Smaller Cos	109.57	116.26	+0.05	0.97
Higher Yield	46.89	49.62	-0.06	2.42
American Gth Inc	79.52	84.15†	+0.80	...
European Growth	138.94	147.03†	+0.86	...
Global Bond Inc	30.10	31.86	-0.20	5.90
Mngd Pfolio Inc	45.50	48.15†	+0.15	0.94
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 117 Fenchurch St, London EC3M 5AL 071 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	65.99	66.89†	+0.16	5.54
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD PO Box 105, Manchester M60 0AH 061 837 5060				
Environ	159.10	169.30	+0.40	1.33
UK Growth	170.70	181.60†	+0.50	1.80
UK Income	140.60	149.60	+0.90	3.77
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD High St, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 0707 651 122				
Can Gen Dist	190.80	202.30	...	1.79
-do- Income Dist	113.80	120.60	+0.30	4.43
Gilt & Fxd Int	42.63	45.19†	+0.26	6.02
For Cannon see Lincoln National				
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD 55 Fountain Street, Manchester M2 2AF 061 236 5685 Enq: 061 236 5685 Dlg: 061 236 5362				
American & Gen	152.20	162.00	+0.50	...
European Inc	81.37	86.17	-0.29	0.34
Smaller Cos I-II	86.19	91.70†	-0.03	1.13
Growth	438.60	469.10†	-0.80	1.97
Income & Growth	422.10	449.10†	+3.90	3.44
Japan & Gen	78.82	83.86†	+0.48	...
Master Portfolio	10971	11224	-190.00	1.33
Special Sits	100.50	107.00	+0.10	1.92
High Yield	1371.0	1414.0	+2.00	3.91
CAPITAL HOUSE UNIT TST MGRS Capital House, Festival Square, Edinburgh 031 228 4477 Dealing: 0800 833 564				
American Gwth Tst	38.07	40.71	+0.17	0.21
Cash Income	50.61	50.61	...	4.94
European Gwth	40.32	43.00	+0.09	0.35
Income & Gwth Inc	28.77	30.77†	-0.07	4.02
Intnl Gwth	32.39	34.64	+0.11	0.53
Japan Gwth	29.01	31.02	+0.28	...
Managed Tst Inc	50.31	53.80	+0.08	1.49
Oriental Opps Inc	143.90	153.90	-0.60	...
Property Shares	46.56	49.79	-0.21	1.63
Smaller Cos	33.15	35.45	-0.05	1.49
UK Growth Tst	26.71	28.56	-0.06	2.64
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	73.50	78.60†	-0.14	1.64
Cap Hse UK Inc	68.31	73.05	-0.24	2.34
Exempt	23.59	24.26	...	...
Formerly Brown Shipley				
European Inc	26.45	28.28	+0.18	0.38
European Acc	27.43	29.33	+0.18	0.38
Financial	152.60	162.90†	...	1.71
Foundation	94.35	100.90†	-1.10	2.18
German	51.06	54.59	+0.18	0.07
High Income	78.55	84.01†	+0.99	5.24
Income	137.90	147.40	-0.50	3.40
Intl Growth	39.36	42.09	+0.18	0.15
Mngd Pfolio Inc	108.00	115.50	...	1.60
Mngd Pfolio Acc	206.40	220.70	...	1.60
Monthly Income	85.26	91.18†	-2.62	3.19
North American	107.60	115.00	+0.30	...
Orient	151.60	162.10	+0.80	...
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 3 Copthall Avenue, London EC2R 7BH 071 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	83.19	88.86	-0.30	2.18
American Portfolio	90.69	96.65	-0.07	1.01
European Portfolio	98.68	105.24	+0.39	0.03
Japanese Portfolio	74.24	78.93	+0.52	...
Pacific Portfolio	143.28	154.07	-0.72	0.76
UK Inc & Growth	76.16	81.57	-0.23	3.65
Utility & Bond	56.47	57.17	-0.20	6.31
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD 5 Old Bailey, London EC4M 7BA 071 332 5000				
UK General Tst	65.87	70.07	+0.02	2.86
Global Tst	...	...	...	...
Recovery Tst	...	...	...	...
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD 151 Farringdon Rd, London EC1R 3AD 071 837 7687				
Intl Growth	147.01	159.32	...	...
UK Growth	113.04	122.04	...	...
UK Income	117.45	127.28	...	3.69
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	87.26	92.40	+0.65	1.81
Beck Bio-Tech	31.31	39.69	...	...
Acorn Ethical Tst	161.37	169.86	...	1.19
City Fin Assets	75.85	79.84	...	1.58
City Fin America	83.83	89.67	+0.65	...
City Fin Intl	79.24	83.41	-0.37	0.47
City Fin Japan	178.11	189.18	+1.09	...
Friars Hse Cap	284.34	300.89	...	2.22
Friars Hse Inc	207.06	223.96	...	4.77
Buckley Wrld Grth	140.60	149.61†	-0.67	0.62
Fairmount Cap Gth	147.55	155.32	...	...
-do- Inc & Gth	119.19	125.46	...	1.58
Fairmount Intl	163.94	172.57	...	...
City Fin Pfdo Inc	59.74	63.55	...	2.61
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 10 Eastcheap, London EC3M 1AJ 0392 412 144				
Emerging Markets	57.26	60.76	-0.01	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH 0800 373 393				
American Gwth	60.51	64.72	-0.20	...
Atlas Mngd Gwth	38.76	41.68	+0.12	0.08
Dragon Growth	70.83	75.75	-0.19	0.44
Equity High Inc	85.02	90.45†	-0.08	3.42
European Gwth	51.07	54.33	+0.22	0.72
Evergreen	32.03	34.26	+0.24	...
General Equity	86.93	92.23	-0.20	2.13
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	26.46	27.82	-0.13	7.50
Japan Growth	54.46	58.80	+0.74	...
Pedigree Gwth	52.35	55.69	-0.08	2.07
Pcd Sm Cos Inc	34.30	36.49	+0.03	0.58
Retirement Inc	26.84	28.56	+0.01	5.08
Special Sits	40.35	43.15	-0.03	1.48
UK & Overseas	50.31	53.52	-0.10	0.92
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY 0634 890 000				
Capital	65.94	70.52†	-0.13	2.72
Income	61.52	65.80†	-0.06	3.78
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL LTD Exchange Court, 3 Bedford Park, Croydon CR0 2AQ 081 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	171.35	182.29	-0.19	4.85
Fixed & Convertible	45.27	48.16	+0.21	5.30
Monthly Inc Plus	52.95	56.33	+0.21	7.95
Preference Share	50.68	53.91	+0.17	6.86
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	137.79	146.59	..	6.50
Managed Fund	70.15	74.63	+0.17	2.70
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	44.89	47.76	-0.04	1.77
UK & General	80.40	85.53	+0.21	2.53
UK Growth	140.10	149.04	-0.35	1.60
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	193.95	206.33	+0.19	...
Far Eastern Grth	138.86	147.72	+0.13	0.28
Global Bond	85.44	90.79	-0.20	5.86
Japan Growth	132.14	140.57	+1.05	...
North Amer Grth	162.60	172.98	+0.48	...
Oriental Growth	81.05	86.22	-0.33	...
Worldwide Growth	67.45	71.76	-0.35	0.23
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	93.04	93.04	+0.01	4.49
Homemaker Fund	78.49	83.50†	+0.02	1.83
Quilter Fund	137.50	146.28†	-0.29	2.03
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 0438 744 840				
Growth Inc	59.47	63.26	-0.10	2.60
High Income	34.96	37.19	+0.01	4.50
Japan	38.89	41.37	+0.33	...
Smaller Cos Inc	33.80	35.98	+0.01	2.20
Smaller Cos	35.20	37.44	+0.01	2.20
North American	33.11	35.22	+0.15	0.60
European	38.10	40.53	-0.16	0.40
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD 1 White Hart Yd, London Bridge SE1 1NX 071 407 5966				
Consistent UT	32.04	34.37†	...	4.31
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD 1 King St, Manchester M60 3AH 0800 526 358				
Growth	151.80	161.50	-0.30	1.58
Income	76.11	80.97†	+0.10	4.23
European	63.06	67.09	+0.40	0.67
Recovery	145.60	154.90†	-0.13	1.23
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD 78-80 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NJ 071 283 9494				
Equity Dist	837.40	851.50	...	3.63
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex 0277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	74.40	79.15	+0.22	1.79
Income	245.60	261.30	-0.40	4.31
Smaller Cos	159.10	169.20	-0.30	1.20
Inv Portfolio	80.28	85.41†	+0.21	1.40
High Income Port	69.27	73.69	-0.08	4.90
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3XS 071 418 0177				
Euro Small Cos	1539.7	1574.2	...	...
Japan Small Cos	1287.1	1312.3	...	...
UK Small Cos	1899.9	1978.6	...	...
US Small Cos	1679.4	1725.7	...	...
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS 66 Wilson Street, London EC2A 2BL 071 377 8819				
Disc Inc	202.20	212.80	...	2.58
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 25 Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh 031 315 2500				
European Gwth	268.80	284.10	+0.30	1.06
New Asia	219.80	237.50	-0.90	0.33
Japan Growth	134.40	143.00	...	...
Jap Smllr Co	560.70	595.40	+6.60	...
Nth Amer	255.30	270.70	+0.70	0.90
Shifrd Asia Pac Mr	123.50	131.10	-0.60	0.48
UK Inc & Gwth	224.70	239.90	...	3.38
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ 0242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	145.30	154.60	+0.40	1.73
UK High Inc Inc	160.40	170.60	-0.60	4.67
UK Pref & F I Inc	61.90	65.64	+0.73	4.78
Envrnmntl Opps	85.40	90.91	+0.18	1.35
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD 97 Haymarket Terrace, Edinburgh 0345 090 526				
American	124.30	132.10	+0.30	0.15
Convertibles	24.45	25.98†	-0.01	6.35
Equity Income	135.30	143.80	-0.20	3.48
EuroFund	46.52	49.20	+0.16	0.81
Financial	50.72	53.89	-0.41	1.48
Growth & Inc	241.10	256.30†	-0.50	2.93
High Dist	167.50	178.00	-0.20	4.21
International	398.10	423.00	+0.40	0.24
Int Cap Inc	98.27	104.90	-0.10	2.48
Latin American	48.44	51.47	-0.86	0.24
Pacific	85.58	90.93	-0.15	...
Preference Share	25.01	26.57†	+0.11	5.83
Tokyo	244.70	259.70	+1.90	...
UK Smaller Cos	247.70	263.30	+0.10	0.89
ELCON LTD Central Ct, Knoll Rise, Orpington BR6 0JA 0689 78538				
Elcon Trust	223.60	238.70	...	...
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD 41 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JU 071 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	208.80	218.90	...	0.31
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Walton St, Aylesbury, Bucks HP21 7QN 0296 431 480				
European	81.46	85.75	+0.11	1.54
Far Eastern	318.45	335.21	-0.09	1.38
High Income	138.09	145.36	-0.44	4.16
Intl Growth	123.70	130.27†	-0.47	1.12
North American	120.51	126.85	-0.09	0.95
Pelican	120.90	127.56	-0.85	2.59
Smaller Cos	78.93	83.08	-0.03	1.73
Special Sits	95.73	100.77	-0.08	2.25
Tst of Inv Tsts	192.24	202.36†	+0.05	1.71
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	222.92	232.31	...	1.54
Smaller Cos Acc	385.91	401.99	...	1.54
Recovery	59.34	61.81	+0.13	1.84
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD 23 Cathedral Yard, Exeter EX1 1HB 0392 412 144				
Balanced	113.24	120.37	+0.56	4.77
Capital Growth	83.76	89.83	+0.40	...
Fd of Inv Tsts	46.47	49.57	+0.05	0.23
High Income	48.82	52.08	+0.16	8.51
Warrant	63.17	68.67†	-0.01	...
Zero Preference	37.06	39.53	...	...
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD 16 West Street, Brighton BN1 2RE 0273 220 787				
Family Asset Tst	78.41	83.41	+0.56	2.17
Family Income Tst	51.17	54.43	-0.16	5.66
Family Trust	93.79	99.77	...	1.03
United Charities	259.40	275.90	...	3.02
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD 130 Tonbridge Rd, Tonbridge TN11 9DZ Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161 Broker Dealings: 0800 414 181				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	4.80
Stabiliser Growth Range				
Controlled Risk UK	24.50	25.83	-0.04	3.21
-do- Europe	24.30	25.65	-0.21	4.76
-do- America	23.34	24.59	+0.07	0.31
-do- Acc Japan	26.83	28.47	+0.18	0.49
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	30.24	30.60†	+0.18	7.27
Intl Bond	31.10	32.43	-0.26	5.16
Income Funds				
High Income	28.42	29.91†	+0.14	4.88
Income Plus	122.50	130.30†	+0.10	3.82
Amer Eq Inc	49.13	52.11	-0.15	1.57
European Income	45.95	48.86†	+0.32	1.93
Far East Inc	66.06	69.66	+0.32	2.20
Global Convertible	25.01	26.68†	-0.02	2.67
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	60.13	64.14	+0.08	...
American	247.50	262.40	+2.10	...
Amer Spec Sits	115.90	123.70	+0.80	...
Japan Smaller Cos	45.18	48.20†	+0.64	...
European	170.10	180.90	-0.20	...
European Opps	63.51	67.53	+0.33	...
UK Growth	91.14	96.91	+0.14	...
Growth & Inc	157.60	167.60	+0.30	3.33
Intl PEP	36.80	39.13	+0.08	...
Japan Spec Sits	100.20	107.10	+1.40	...
Japan	212.60	226.90	+1.70	...
Managed Intl	280.60	299.50†	+1.60	...
Moneybuilder	54.73	58.20	+0.15	...
Recovery	47.69	50.71†	+0.11	...
South E Asia	155.70	166.10	-0.90	...
Special Sits	555.10	590.30	-1.20	...
Specialist Funds				
UK Index	110.80	116.70	-0.40	2.68
UK Reverse Index	75.11	79.11	-0.72	4.47
Europe Index	110.50	116.30	+0.70	4.44
-do- Reverse Index	65.49	69.10	+0.10	8.12
America Index	100.70	106.30	+0.20	0.62
-do- Reverse Index	93.75	98.73	-0.44	0.72
Japan Index	141.60	149.20	+1.80	0.61
-do- Reverse Index	90.25	96.29	+0.53	1.32
Cash Accum Units	104.70	104.70	+0.01	4.80
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD 20 Finsbury St, Lond EC2Y 9AQ 071 814 2700				
Balanced	144.20	147.60†	-0.20	1.56
Inc Pfolio	92.19	93.96†	+0.05	3.45
Cap Pfolio	150.40	153.20	+0.10	0.62
General Opps	133.10	135.20	-0.30	3.20
Growth Inc	31.51	32.12	-0.04	1.17
Private Portfolio	421.00	429.90†	+0.90	1.42
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT Admin, PO Box 2001, Brentwood, Essex CM13 1XR Enq: 071 454 1434 Dlg: 0277 261 018				
Hypo Foreign & Colonial				
European	115.80	122.50	+0.60	0.32
Far Eastern	191.10	203.10	+1.50	...
High Income	22.61	24.08†	+0.01	10.38
Oseas Income	102.00	109.00	-0.30	2.59
UK Growth	118.70	126.90	-0.50	0.87
UK Income	110.70	118.60	-0.30	4.47
US Smaller Cos	305.30	326.50	+0.60	...
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX 071 407 5966				
High Inc Eqty	50.20	53.40	-0.60	3.85
-do- Inv Tst Inc	78.12	83.11†	-0.14	3.73
Intl Growth	74.01	78.73	...	1.15
Investment Trust	93.04	98.98†	+0.18	0.22
UK Smaller Cos	88.13	93.75	+0.18	1.17
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD 155 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 3FT 071 374 4100				
American Growth	57.80	61.70	+0.29	...
(Accum Units)	57.80	61.70	+0.29	...
Amer Smllr Cos	515.40	551.10	+1.80	...
(Accum Units)	526.50	563.00	+1.80	...
Capital Tst	...	356.40	-2.00	...
(Accum Units)	474.00	504.20	-0.30	...
Contl Smllr Cos	61.77	66.36	+0.15	0.11
(Accum Units)	64.58	69.37	+0.16	0.11
Convertible	142.90	151.90	-0.10	4.49
(Accum Units)	276.70	294.30	-0.30	4.49
Emerging Markets	84.39	90.16	-0.13	...
(Accum Units)	84.47	90.24	-0.12	...
European	121.10	128.60	+0.60	0.02
(Accum Units)	126.20	134.10	+0.60	0.02
Extra Income	346.00	368.00	-0.70	3.28
(Accum Units)	501.60	533.50	-1.10	3.28
Financial	124.00	133.40	+0.70	0.40
(Accum Units)	129.80	139.60	+0.70	0.40
Gilt Trust	67.69	69.80	+0.30	5.64
(Accum Units)	89.62	92.41	+0.40	5.64
Health Fund Inc	144.70	154.50	+0.30	...
(Accum Units)	144.70	154.50	+0.30	...
Income & Growth	204.00	216.90	-0.30	3.30
(Accum Units)	295.50	314.30	-0.30	3.30
Intl Growth	387.60	416.10	...	...
(Accum Units)	430.40	462.10	+2.50	...
Japan & Gen	204.30	218.80	+1.40	...
(Accum Units)	206.30	221.00	+1.40	...
Managed Port Inc	110.00	115.70	...	0.57
(Accum Units)	115.60	121.60	...	0.57
Monthly Income	176.70	187.90	-0.10	3.31
Quarterly Income	56.52	60.12	+0.12	4.17
(Accum Units)	58.30	62.01	+0.13	4.17
Recovery	371.70	397.40	+1.70	0.08
(Accum Units)	437.30	467.60	+2.00	0.08
UK Growth	53.70	57.29	-0.02	2.41
(Accum Units)	53.70	57.29	-0.02	2.41
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts Dealing: 0722 411 411 Admin: 0722 411 622				
FP Equity Dist	394.08	419.23	+1.30	2.32
-do- Accum	812.94	864.83	+2.69	2.32
FP Euro Gth Dist	134.61	143.20	+0.66	0.34
-do- Accum	139.81	148.73†	+0.68	0.34
FP Fixed Int Dist	138.79	146.81†	+0.90	5.90
-do- Accum	243.33	257.38†	+1.56	5.90
FP Intl Gth Dist	95.18	101.26	+0.19	0.36
-do- Accum	99.08	105.40	+0.19	0.36
FP Nth Amer Dist	194.39	205.92	-0.06	0.57
-do- Accum	212.41	225.01	-0.06	0.57
FP Pac Basin Dist	325.85	346.65	+0.72	0.01
-do- Accum	332.07	353.27	+0.74	0.01
Stewardship Dist	352.51	375.01	+0.49	1.69
-do- Accum	423.11	450.12	+0.59	1.69
Stwrdshp Inc Dist	76.86	81.77	+0.20	3.00
-do- Accum	96.84	103.02†	+0.25	3.00
N Am Stshp Dist	106.60	113.40	+0.30	0.40
-do- Accum	112.84	120.04	+0.30	0.40
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD PO Box 237, York YO1 1LA 0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	243.80	257.90	+1.30	1.90
Cash	49.46	50.30†	...	4.35
Growth Portfolio	85.62	90.76	+0.39	0.33
Income Portfolio	70.43	74.48†	+0.28	3.34
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Alban Gate, 14th Floor, 125 London Wall, London EC2Y 5AS 071 710 4567 Dealing: 071 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	169.90	181.80	+1.20	...
European	549.60	587.70†	+1.80	1.23
Far East & Gen	282.00	303.90	-1.10	...
Germany	124.70	132.50	-1.00	...
Global Assets Inc	...	...	...	...
Income Inc	160.50	171.70†	-0.50	4.11
International	349.90	374.30†	-1.30	...
Intl Income	85.07	90.38	-0.20	3.91
Japan & General	439.30	467.60	+2.50	...
Korean Securities	73.95	79.10	-0.35	0.17
Smllr Cos Div Inc	55.32	59.17	-0.03	1.80
UK Capital (Inc)	194.00	207.50†	...	1.69
UK Spec Sits	98.36	105.20	+0.10	0.32
US & General	138.20	147.00	+0.40	...
Wwide Spec Sits	167.60	179.30	-0.10	0.09
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS Gartmore House, 16-18 Monument St, London EC3R 8AJ 071 782 2000 Dlgs only: 0277 264 421 Investor Services: Freephone 0800 289 336				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	51.60	55.25†	+0.03	1.85
Cash Trust	132.44	132.44†	+0.01	5.05
Practical Inv Inc	116.74	124.86†	-0.49	3.52
UK Index	149.36	151.99†	-0.18	2.85
UK Smaller Cos	125.18	133.88	-0.05	0.83
Income Funds				
Preference Share	27.21	29.10	+0.12	8.42
High Income	35.14	37.58†	+0.03	4.58
UK Equity Income	141.25	151.07†	-0.09	3.53
Global Bond	29.71	30.87†	-0.27	4.60
International Funds				
Frontier Markets	64.95	69.46	+0.89	...
Global Inc & Gth	139.43	148.65	+0.49	1.37
Gold & Intl Res	116.21	124.29	-0.23	0.81
Global Utilities	134.74	144.09	+0.05	0.76
Overseas Funds				
American	144.45	154.28	-0.88	0.84
European	98.81	104.58†	-0.35	0.73
Euro Sel Opps	133.55	141.72	+0.61	...
Amer Emerging	103.39	110.58	-0.41	...
Hong Kong	157.91	168.89†	-4.46	1.31
Japan	264.13	280.81	-2.73	...
Pacific Growth	222.92	238.42	-2.17	1.17
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	217.55	217.55	+0.31	1.71
Long Term Bal	235.99	235.99	+0.41	2.17
Med Term Bal	198.22	198.22	+0.66	2.74
UK Equity	237.45	237.45	+0.71	2.19
UK Emerging Cos	148.49	148.49	-0.23	1.68
American	233.81	233.81†	+2.09	1.24
Japan	148.17	148.17†	+0.89	...
European	254.40	254.40†	+0.71	0.97
Index Linked Gilt	170.07	170.07	+1.39	3.14
Fixed Interest	161.86	161.86	+1.05	6.07
Amer Emerging	270.58	270.58†	+0.65	...
Pacific	244.36	244.36	-1.63	0.68
Emerging Mkts	192.28	192.28†	-2.03	...
Index Strat Japan	161.62	161.62†	+1.46	0.21
-do- Pacific Basin	196.71	196.71†	-6.57	0.69
-do- Cont Europe	146.42	146.42†	-0.28	1.57
Index Strat USA	131.60	131.60†	+0.90	2.19
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	102.87	109.44	+0.16	...
Med Term Bal	94.28	100.30	-0.34	...
Long Term Bal	106.34	113.13	+0.20	...
UK Equity	109.78	116.79	-0.06	...
UK Emerging Cos	69.69	74.14	-0.11	...
American	108.77	115.71	+1.03	...
Japan	71.40	75.96	+0.46	...
European	106.25	113.03	+0.36	...
Fixed Interest	81.38	86.58	-0.56	...
Index Linked Gilt	75.41	80.23	-0.66	...
Deposit	76.95	81.86	...	...
Broker Unit Trusts				
Berkeley Intl Grth	130.58	137.45†	-0.05	..
Berkeley Income	117.51	123.69†	+0.39	2.06
BWH Intl	142.50	150.00	+0.29	0.57
Brollff Gth Port Inc	63.29	66.80	+0.13	1.25
-do- Inc Port Inc	59.79	63.10†	-0.80	3.40
-do- Wwide Port	55.31	58.37	+0.09	0.50
Shaw Utilities	55.17	58.23	-0.05	3.66
GLENFRIARS UNIT TST MGRS LTD 22 Suffolk St, London SW1Y 4HS 071 930 7533				
Inv Opportunities	149.70	158.60	-0.70	...
Higher Income	140.10	147.00	-0.10	1.51
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT GAM Sterling Management Ltd 12 St James's Place, London SW1 071 493 9990				
$ Intl Inc	591.74	629.51	...	0.09
European Inc	147.36	156.77	...	...
Amalgam Inc	150.59	159.43	-0.54	...
N America Inc	338.79	360.41	...	...
Far East Inc	343.17	365.07	...	0.20
UK Divid Inc	176.12	187.36	-0.98	...
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD Shackleton House, 4 Battle Bridge Lane, London SE1 071 378 7979 Dealing: 071 407 7888				
UK Equity Inc	88.11	92.82†	+0.28	3.91
UK Small Cos	53.51	57.23	-0.12	0.81
British Growth	57.87	60.96	+0.18	2.12
American Gwth	173.07	185.10	+4.52	...
Japan Growth	89.41	95.61	+0.61	...
Greater China	197.29	211.00	-1.76	...
Pacific Strategy	174.41	186.54†	-1.74	...
European Gwth	86.47	92.48	+0.54	0.17
Intl Growth	156.23	167.10	+0.15	0.97
US Index (£)	13.671	14.405	-0.068	1.00
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	80.88	85.48	-0.11	1.89
Monthly Income	44.81	47.61†	-0.05	10.00
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 865 0033				
UK Index (£)	11.813	12.353	-0.085	3.60
Euro Index (£)	13.300	13.918	-0.034	4.50
Japan Index (£)	12.081	12.645	-0.094	1.85
US Index (£)	14.401	15.065	-0.081	1.50
Cash (£)	9.5394	9.5871	-0.000	4.10
UK Bear (£)	7.4610	7.8019	+0.059	3.60
European Bear (£)	7.5264	7.8758	+0.044	4.50
Japan Bear (£)	11.404	11.936	-0.004	1.85
US Bear (£)	9.1912	9.6156	+0.036	1.80
Dollar Bull (£)	15.751	16.485	+0.010	1.50
Dollar Bear (£)	6.8241	7.1351	-0.004	3.60
Gilt Bull (£)	11.354	11.869	-0.064	3.60
Gilt Bear (£)	7.2709	7.6002	+0.041	3.60
Dollar Cash (£)	10.561	10.614	+0.002	1.90
Gtd UK Index (£)	11.788	12.416	+0.113	3.60
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD Mint Hse, 77 Mansell St, London E1 8AF 071 488 1212				
Small Cos	100.34	106.75†	...	1.10
Bridge Income	279.64	297.49	...	4.92
GUARDIAN ROYAL EX UT MGRS LTD 36 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GE 071 538 9668				
Cash	134.70	134.70	...	4.25
European	478.40	511.10	+4.30	0.04
Gilt & Fixed	134.30	142.50†	+1.20	4.03
Growth Equity	347.30	371.00	+0.60	1.66
Income Trust	128.70	137.40	+0.80	2.84
International	191.60	204.60†	+0.20	...
Japan Trust	141.60	151.20	+1.40	...
Nth American	282.40	301.70	-0.90	...
Pacific	576.10	615.40	-1.10	...
Guardhill	503.40	537.80†	+1.30	1.71
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD 5 Gainsford Street, London SE1 2NE 071 522 2129				
EMU Trust	111.86	116.10†	+0.59	7.16
Global High Inc	116.04	120.45	+0.43	7.69
Prem Fixed Int	112.74	117.04	+0.79	7.34
Eqty & Bond Inc	105.04	111.66†	+0.89	4.35
European Growth	97.18	103.32	+0.63	...
Intl PEP Trust	61.43	65.31	+0.57	...
High Income	122.79	130.56†	+2.22	3.17
Recovery	409.10	435.00	-2.60	1.41
St Vinc High Inc	133.37	135.37†	+0.55	6.69
Tmp Bar Emer Co	256.00	272.20	+1.00	1.08
Tmp Br Sm Co In	382.10	388.80	-0.10	1.51
HALIFAX STANDARD TST MGT LTD PO Box 800, Edinburgh EH15 1EW 0800 838 668				
Global Advtg Inc	40.76	42.79†	+0.30	1.49
Income Advtg Inc	32.68	34.65†	+0.30	3.53
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 390				
Model Pfolio	208.70	221.40†	+1.20	1.80
Smaller Cos	36.21	38.52†	+0.11	1.19
HENDERSON UNIT TST MGMT LTD PO Box 2157, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4ET Enquiries: 0277 263 298 Dealing: 0277 234 772				
UK Funds				
Special Sits	307.66	329.18†	-0.41	0.91
Best of British	64.67	69.15	-0.14	2.13
UK Smaller Cos	128.16	137.77†	+0.10	0.67
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth	285.93	304.50	-0.37	2.68
High Income	340.05	363.51	-0.55	3.40
Extra Income	294.77	313.80†	-0.01	4.40
Pref & Gilt	49.67	53.38	+0.22	7.66
International				
International	278.46	296.52	+1.50	0.26
Global Bond	57.05	60.68†	+0.27	6.23
Family of Funds	84.13	89.63	+0.17	0.31
Global Tech	159.66	170.74	+1.48	...
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	184.69	197.50	-0.20	...
European	483.44	514.12	+2.72	0.42
European Income	86.18	91.17†	+0.27	2.29
Euro Smlr Cos	150.66	160.88	+0.75	0.36
Eur Sp Sits	68.74	73.21	-0.55	0.08
Japan Trust	230.32	245.18	+1.22	...
Japan Special Sits	263.71	280.88	+1.09	...
Pacific Smlr Cos	259.79	276.38	-1.85	...
North American	253.61	269.47	+2.14	...
American Smaller	110.92	118.56	-1.16	...
Henderson TR Pension Portfolio				
American Growth	58.34	61.84	...	...
Eur Sp Sits	58.60	62.11	...	...
General Growth	43.06	45.64	...	...
Global Tech	61.92	65.63	...	...
Income Growth	42.99	45.56	...	...
Japan Growth	28.03	29.71	...	...
Overseas Growth	40.44	42.86	...	...
Smaller Cos	22.62	23.97	...	...
Special Opps	29.92	31.71	...	...
Sterling Liquidity	...	...	...	...
Wwide Sp Sits	50.51	53.54	...	...
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 686 4355				
British	101.50	108.50	+0.10	1.73
Capital	179.10	191.50†	...	1.34
Dollar	354.00	378.60	+1.90	...
European	241.10	257.80	-0.30	0.21
Far East	344.40	368.30	+1.00	0.07
Financial	837.60	895.80	+0.60	0.92
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	27.26	28.32	+0.11	7.24
High Yield	113.40	121.20	-0.10	3.72
Income & Growth	152.10	162.60	-0.30	2.63
International	259.20	277.20	+1.30	0.01
Japanese General	215.00	229.90	+2.00	...
Japan Tech	86.35	92.33	+1.51	...
Nat Resources	77.46	82.84	-0.37	...
Portfolio	77.28	82.65	+0.04	1.62
Security	338.20	361.70	-0.30	1.71
Smaller Cos	141.00	150.80	...	0.86
Special Sits	159.70	170.80†	-0.20	1.06
UK Emerging Cos	95.84	102.50	-0.10	0.03
US Smaller Cos	79.99	85.55	+0.90	...
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 7 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4HU Dig: 071 955 5055 Enq: 0800 289 505				
James Capel Unit Trusts Dig: 071 955 5055 Enq: 0800 289 505				
Index Funds				
American Index	200.40	213.50†	+0.70	1.23
Eurotrack 100	157.80	167.90†	+0.60	0.95
Footsie Fund	53.53	56.64	-0.04	2.42
Japan Index	86.31	92.11†	+0.99	0.09
Tiger Index	200.90	214.40	+2.80	0.19
Trixie Index	123.10	131.40†	-1.80	1.60
UK Index	142.00	151.60	-0.10	2.73
Active Funds				
American Growth	490.10	512.40	+2.00	0.16
Asian	57.81	61.70	+0.30	...
Capital	618.00	659.50	+2.60	2.03
European Growth	112.30	119.30	+0.80	...
Global Bond	23.42	24.71	+0.15	6.43
Hong Kong Gwth	117.30	125.20†	+1.60	0.54
Income	579.20	618.10	-0.50	3.70
Intl Growth	81.08	86.50	+0.33	0.06
Japan Growth	318.70	340.10	+2.80	...
Japan Smllr Cos	38.53	41.12†	+0.46	...
Spore & Mlysn Gth	73.87	78.84	+0.09	...
Midland Unit Trusts Dealing 0742 529020 Enquiries 0742 529076				
Balanced	61.93	66.23	+0.08	2.15
(Accum Units)	63.67	68.09	+0.08	2.15
British Tst	84.62	90.50†	-0.64	1.86
(Accum Units)	97.46	104.20†	-0.70	1.88
Extra High Inc	73.46	78.57	+0.08	5.63
(Accum Units)	134.60	143.90	+0.10	5.63
Gilt & Fxd Int	57.66	60.02†	+0.39	6.32
(Accum Units)	160.00	166.60†	+1.10	6.32
High Yield	240.30	257.00	+0.20	4.44
(Accum Units)	576.80	616.80	+0.50	4.44
Income	307.30	328.70	-3.20	2.64
(Accum Units)	656.90	702.50	-7.00	2.64
Japan Growth	347.80	372.00	...	...
(Accum Units)	367.10	392.60	...	...
Mandarin Tst	138.30	147.90	...	0.59
(Accum Units)	144.60	154.60	...	0.59
Money Market UT	49.35	49.35	...	4.67
(Accum Units)	74.88	74.88	...	4.67
Monthly Income	90.59	96.89†	+0.06	3.92
North American	...	...	...	...
(Accum Units)	...	...	...	...
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	101.30	107.80	-0.10	1.82
European Growth	108.30	115.20	+0.80	0.02
Gilt & Fixed	86.14	91.43	+0.59	6.07
Income	88.53	94.18	-0.04	2.80
Japan Growth	60.26	64.11	+0.52	...
Managed	68.65	73.03	+0.07	2.41
Money Market	83.23	88.22	...	4.55
North American	88.34	93.98	+0.27	0.48
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	92.04	97.92	-0.10	1.80
European Growth	102.00	108.50	+0.70	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	82.10	87.15	+0.57	6.03
Income	87.01	92.56	-0.04	2.77
Japan Growth	60.07	63.90	+0.52	...
Managed	65.68	69.87	+0.07	2.38
Money Market	76.91	81.53	...	4.51
North American	80.49	85.63	+0.34	0.57
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	92.33	98.22	-0.10	1.79
European Growth	99.55	105.90	+0.70	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	75.96	80.63	+0.53	6.12
Income	86.43	91.95	-0.04	2.78
Japan Growth	61.53	65.46	+0.53	...
Managed	68.98	73.38	+0.08	2.36
Money Market	72.22	76.56	...	4.55
North American	89.22	94.91	+0.27	0.44
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 11 Devonshire Square, London EC2M 4YR 071 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
Investment Tst	74.03	78.65	+0.10	0.12
Smaller Cos	33.57	35.66†	-0.02	0.97
Special Features	32.81	34.86†	-0.26	1.31
(Accum Units)	39.40	41.86†	-0.01	1.30
General Funds				
Assets & Earnings	79.30	84.25	-0.15	1.61
Accum Units	95.34	101.20	-0.20	1.61
General Equities	75.77	80.50†	-0.33	2.61
Great British Cos	53.87	57.62	...	1.73
Managed Invest	103.90	110.90†	+0.40	1.51
PEP Managed	74.33	79.31	+0.15	1.92
Expert Child Tst	83.45	88.98	-0.24	1.78
UK Growth	61.05	65.27	...	1.57
High Income Funds				
Cashbox (Dist)	50.16	50.16†	+0.01	3.88
Cashbox (Acc)	57.48	57.48†	...	3.88
Extra Income	88.31	94.40	+0.23	4.59
Gilt	29.08	30.65	+0.18	5.94
Income & Growth	43.95	46.86	-0.03	3.00
Minstar Gilt & FI	79.78	81.54	+0.50	7.26
Preference Shares	19.40	20.61†	+0.03	6.04
UK Income	344.50	367.50†	-5.80	3.07
Sector Specialist Funds				
Fin Securities	69.40	73.73	+0.34	0.69
Property Shares	83.06	89.48†	-0.29	1.06
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	52.69	55.97†	+0.65	0.02
US Smaller Cos	122.30	129.40	+1.20	...
(Accum Units)	123.60	130.80	+1.30	...
Europe Perf	152.90	162.20	+0.90	...
(Accum Units)	158.10	167.70	+1.00	...
Euro Smaller Cos	29.35	31.13	+0.19	...
French Growth	80.76	85.82†	+0.42	...
Accum Units	86.52	91.94†	+0.46	...
H Kong & China	93.49	100.60	-0.60	0.82
Intl Growth	60.00	63.75	+0.29	0.10
Accum Units	60.30	64.06	+0.28	0.10
Japan Perf	38.68	41.07	+0.49	...
Accum Units	38.68	41.07	+0.49	...
Japan Smaller Cos	43.74	46.63	+0.78	...
Singapore ASEAN	108.90	117.90	+0.10	...
Accum Units	109.60	118.70	+0.10	...
SE Asia	331.60	352.30†	+0.20	...
Overseas Income Funds				
Global Income	96.19	102.40	+0.30	1.46
Intl Bond	57.26	58.03†	+0.35	6.47
JUPITER MERLIN UT MGRS LTD 197 Knightsbridge, London SW7 1RB 071 581 3020				
American Cap	172.40	183.40	...	...
Income	145.42	154.70	...	3.87
Res & General	157.60	165.40	...	...
UK Growth	54.25	57.71	...	0.93
International	89.86	95.59	...	0.24
Ecology	85.35	90.80	...	0.57
European	115.78	122.52	...	...
Far Eastern	347.40	369.59	...	...
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS 10 Fenchurch Street London EC3 Dealers: 071 956 7354 Admin: 071 956 6600				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	57.01	60.65†	+0.07	6.45
(Accum Units)	80.41	85.54	+0.08	6.45
Gilt Yield	121.10	127.80†	+0.60	6.84
(Accum Units)	358.60	378.60	+1.90	6.84
Global Income	234.80	249.80†	...	3.45
(Accum Units)	522.10	553.40	+0.10	3.45
High Yield	150.90	160.50	-0.33	5.35
(Accum Units)	433.30	461.00	-0.85	5.35
Smllr Cos Div	61.00	64.89†	+0.07	2.67
(Accum Units)	76.53	81.42†	-0.07	2.67
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	100.40	106.80	+0.21	...
(Accum Units)	103.90	110.50	+0.20	...
North American	80.32	85.45	+0.26	0.29
(Accum Units)	98.47	104.80	+0.40	0.29
European Special	94.38	100.40	-0.30	1.25
(Accum Units)	99.01	105.30	-0.30	1.25
European	157.90	166.00	+0.40	1.17
(Accum Units)	206.60	219.80	+0.40	1.17
General	295.30	314.30	+1.40	2.86
(Accum Units)	492.50	523.90	+2.50	2.86
Japan	466.10	495.90	+8.30	...
(Accum Units)	471.30	501.40	+8.40	...
Japanese Special	264.40	281.30†	+2.60	...
(Accum Units)	265.70	282.70†	+2.80	...
Master Accum	256.20	272.60	+0.40	0.79
Pacific	361.00	384.00	-1.30	0.38
(Accum Units)	423.30	450.30	-1.50	0.38
Smaller Cos	125.70	133.70	-0.11	0.87
(Accum Units)	170.40	181.30	-0.20	0.87
UK Equity Growth	45.21	48.10†	-0.15	1.61
(Accum Units)	84.68	90.08†	-0.22	1.61
KNIGHT WILLIAMS PRTFOL MGRS 161 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9LA 071 629 1663				
Global Inc & Gth	66.67	70.93	+0.33	0.80
Inv Trust	73.18	77.86	+0.20	...
Cautious Inc/Gth	61.42	65.34	+0.24	1.60
High Inc Acc	58.47	62.21	-0.21	4.40
LAS UNIT TST MGRS LTD 113 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5EB 031 550 5557				
European	94.55	100.10	+0.54	0.40
Extra Income	26.50	28.04	+0.10	3.07
Far East	32.38	34.26	-0.04	0.25
Income & Gwth	80.76	85.46	+0.30	3.47
Intl Growth	61.08	64.63	+0.42	0.32
Japan	69.55	73.60	+0.75	...
Maximum Dist	99.76	101.80	+0.10	6.97
Nth Amer Equity	43.43	45.96	-0.47	0.10
UK Equity	95.67	101.20	-0.40	2.12
L & C UNIT TST MGMT LTD Broadwalk Hse, 5 Appold St EC2A 2DA 071 588 2800				
Income	641.10	654.20	...	4.77
Intl & General	446.30	455.40	...	0.56
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT 1 White Hart Yard SE1 071 407 5966				
Inc & Growth Inc	59.19	62.97	-0.08	3.97
Smaller Cos	57.47	60.81	+0.05	0.82
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD Laurentian Hse, Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ Enq: 0452 371 500 Dlg: 0452 371 623				
Growth Trust	261.00	277.70	-0.20	1.65
High Income	115.10	122.30	-0.10	3.87
International	99.33	105.70	-0.20	0.13
Recovery Trust	67.69	72.01	-0.12	1.32
European Trust	85.74	91.21†	-0.07	0.37
Japanese Trust	49.54	52.70†	+0.34	...
American Trust	84.42	89.81	+0.42	...
Managed	68.71	74.16†	+0.01	0.41
Cash	51.77	51.77	+0.01	4.13
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD 21 Moorfields, London EC2P 2HT 071 374 0916				
UK Cap	364.00	369.60†	...	2.32
UK Inc/Gth	393.20	399.00†	+0.30	2.89
UK Income	278.40	282.80†	...	3.56
UK Sm Cos	265.20	274.30†	-0.40	1.17
Euro Gwth	123.20	124.20	...	...
N Amer Gwth	82.89	83.83	...	0.04
Jap & Pac Gth	87.63	88.86	...	...
Money Mkr	117.88	117.88	...	2.330
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 395				
Equity Dist	481.50	512.20†	-0.60	2.26
Equity Income	104.40	111.10	-0.10	3.30
UK Tactical Allocn	56.99	60.52†	-0.09	3.73
European	117.60	125.10†	+0.40	0.54
Far Eastern	250.60	266.60	+0.60	...
Fixed Interest	54.23	57.59†	+0.15	6.11
Gilt	96.07	101.90	+0.70	5.82
Global Growth	83.15	88.46	+0.28	0.29
Intl Bond	54.85	58.25†	+0.51	4.98
Japanese	83.84	89.19	+0.87	...
North American	157.50	167.60†	+0.70	0.24
Pacific Growth	124.60	132.50	-0.50	...
UK Index	64.38	67.95	-0.07	2.68
UK Recovery	95.69	101.80	...	1.45
UK Smaller Cos	131.90	140.70	-0.10	0.91
US Index	60.50	63.85	-0.35	1.68
European Index	74.43	78.55†	+0.24	1.29
Japan Index	45.18	47.68	-0.51	...
Worldwide	88.90	94.57	+0.11	0.95
LINCOLN NATIONAL 1 Olympic Way, Wembley HA9 0NB 081 902 8876 Dealing: 0800 282 621				
Growth	49.92	53.39	-0.11	3.10
Income	61.59	65.87	-0.05	3.63
Far East	61.06	65.30	-0.04	...
North American	106.40	114.40	-0.30	...
Global	104.40	111.70†	-0.40	0.62
European	87.41	93.57†	+0.13	0.84
Japan	123.70	131.90	+0.90	...
Intl Currency Bd	59.05	62.59	+0.32	6.08
SE Asia	121.20	129.60†	-2.10	0.72
UK Cap Growth	96.02	102.70†	-0.50	1.81
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD PO Box 63, Chatham, Kent ME4 4YB Helpdesk: 0634 834 339 Dealing: 0634 834 313				
Balanced	357.00	379.80	-1.30	2.36
-do- Acc	792.30	843.10	-3.00	2.36
Conti Euro Gth	63.59	66.94	+0.37	0.68
-do- Acc	67.74	71.31	+0.39	0.68
Extra Inc	268.90	285.90	-1.10	3.48
-do- Acc	673.60	716.70	-2.90	3.48
German Gth	126.30	133.00	-1.50	...
-do- Acc	132.40	139.40	-1.60	...
Growth Port	560.70	596.50	-7.70	0.03
-do- Acc	565.50	601.60	-7.80	0.03
Income	505.90	538.20	-2.20	3.29
-do- Acc	1329.0	1404.0	-5.00	3.29
Income Port	530.60	564.50	+2.10	3.71
-do- Acc	545.30	580.20	+2.20	3.71
Japan Growth	114.40	121.90	+0.60	...
-do- Acc	114.80	122.20	+0.60	...
Master Trust	60.77	64.65	-0.22	1.38
-do- Acc	66.89	71.17	-0.23	1.38
N American Gen	198.90	211.60	-0.50	...
-do- Acc	229.70	244.40	-0.50	...
NAm Sm Co Rec	156.50	166.50	+0.60	...
-do- Acc	159.70	169.90	+0.50	...
Pacific Basin	276.30	294.00†	-0.40	0.42
-do- Acc	293.10	311.90	-0.50	0.42
Small Cos Rec	378.40	398.40	-0.20	1.81
-do- Acc	497.10	523.30	-0.30	1.81
UK Growth	88.31	93.95	-1.07	1.92
-do- Acc	105.00	111.80	-1.10	1.92
Worldwide Gth	336.10	357.60	-0.70	0.18
-do- Acc	495.80	527.50	-1.20	0.18
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS 0392 282 673				
American	66.62	70.70	-0.11	0.30
General	90.71	97.33	-0.45	2.40
Income	70.92	76.07†	-0.24	4.70
International	67.58	72.51	-0.03	0.70
Japan	62.32	66.87	-0.40	...
Tst of Inv Trusts	72.11	77.37	-0.15	1.60
M & G SECURITIES M & G House, Victoria Road, Chelmsford CM1 1FB Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 0245 390 390				
Amer & General	414.30	438.10†	-0.90	0.74
Amer Recovery	477.70	505.20	-8.40	0.25
Amer Smllr Cos	135.10	142.90	-1.20	...
Australasian	177.40	187.60†	-1.20	1.26
Capital	838.10	886.30†	-1.80	1.97
Charifund	725.90	733.20	-2.90	4.98
Commodity	405.40	429.60†	-1.70	0.30
Compound Grth	958.00	1013.1	-3.60	2.33
Dividend	41.90	44.30	-0.10	3.99
Equity Income	365.70	386.70†	-0.10	4.47
Euro & General	522.20	552.20	+4.10	0.50
Euro Dividend	74.00	78.30	-0.50	3.27
Extra Yield	431.80	456.60†	-1.70	4.30
Far Eastern	392.50	415.10†	-1.00	0.20
Fund of Inv Tsts	637.80	674.50	-1.50	1.82
General	62.70	66.30	-0.20	3.52
Gilt Income	65.30	65.40†	+0.67	6.70
Gold	74.00	78.30	-0.50	0.53
High Income	29.80	31.50	-0.10	4.23
Intl Growth	80.90	85.60	+0.10	0.71
International Inc	106.40	112.50	-0.30	4.11
Japan & Gen	52.40	55.40	+0.50	...
Japan Smlr Cos	181.70	192.20	-1.40	...
Managed Income	29.00	30.40†	+0.10	3.64
Midland	67.90	71.80	-0.10	2.34
Pension Ex	979.80	1004.3	+3.20	3.69
Recovery	44.10	46.60	+0.10	2.05
Second General	74.40	78.70	-0.20	3.18
Smaller Cos	75.40	79.70†	+0.10	2.36
Treasury	25.05	25.08†	+0.01	4.58
Trustee	44.70	47.30	+0.10	3.89
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD MGM House, Heene Rd, Worthing Dealing: 0277 261 010 Enq: 0903 204 631				
European Growth	83.82	89.17	+0.19	0.26
High Income	300.80	319.90	+0.20	4.29
Intl Bond	67.75	71.37	+0.46	5.47
Intl Equity Growth	73.18	77.85	+0.25	0.32
N Amer Growth	99.48	105.82†	+0.59	0.75
Special Sits Growth	23.07	24.54†	+0.08	1.65
UK Growth	386.70	411.30	+1.90	2.49
MW INVESTMENT MANAGERS LTD 46 Court St, Haddington, E Lothian 062 082 5867				
Joint Investors	1305.2	1333.8	...	2.70
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD c/o Baillie Gifford 1 Rutland Ct EH3 8EY 031 222 4242				
Maldon General	153.40	157.70	...	3.65
MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD St George's Way, Stevenage Dealings: 0438 747 434				
Growth Units	197.20	210.90	+0.90	2.05
Gilt & Fxd Int	180.90	190.40	+1.10	6.31
Intl Growth	221.70	236.50	-0.60	0.14
North American	187.43	200.40	+0.10	0.34
Far East	280.10	299.60	-0.30	0.89
UK Smaller Cos	180.10	192.60	+0.10	1.38
European	82.82	88.02	+0.49	0.11
Japanese Growth	51.76	55.10	+0.36	...
Managed Pfolio	71.38	76.15	-0.20	1.45
High Income	190.80	204.10	-0.10	4.03
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD PO Box 410, Chester X CH99 9QG 0244 680 066				
M & S Inv Pfolio	155.30	165.20	...	1.71
-do- Accum	175.30	186.50	...	1.71
UK Sel Pfolio	132.80	141.20	...	1.95
-do- Accum	151.40	161.00	...	1.95
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 57 Victoria Square, Bolton BL1 1LA 0204 364 842				
Managed Tst	66.80	71.06†	...	3.56
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD Saltire Crt, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh 031 479 4646				
Intl Income	78.15	82.96†	+0.33	4.36
European	85.24	90.45†	+0.77	0.41
Income & Growth	80.02	84.95†	+0.56	2.48
Nth American	61.07	64.83	+0.32	0.34
Far East	178.60	189.80	+0.10	...
Charities	122.50	130.01	+0.80	3.30
Japan	62.11	65.93†	-0.65	...
Emrging Mkts	122.50	131.00	-1.10	0.18
Intl Growth	113.80	120.80	+0.30	0.09
UK Growth	92.48	98.17	-1.21	0.55
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD 33 King William St EC4R 9AS Dealing: 071 280 2060				
American	208.80	221.90	-3.30	...
(Accum Units)	223.20	237.10	-3.50	...
American Opps	92.26	98.41	+0.46	...
(Accum Units)	93.42	99.65	+0.48	...
British Blue Chip	81.39	86.69	+0.30	2.91
(Accum Units)	97.89	104.20	+0.30	2.91
Cash	100.60	100.60	...	4.81
(Accum Units)*	133.40	133.40	...	4.81
Emerging Mkts	129.10	138.80	+0.30	...
European Growth	254.00	269.40	+1.40	0.59
(Accum Units)	273.40	290.00	+1.40	0.59
European Income	88.78	94.00	-0.44	2.59
(Accum Units)	116.30	123.00	-0.50	2.59
General	529.40	564.70†	+1.00	2.14
(Accum Units)	1025	1093†	+1.00	2.14
Global Bond	127.50	134.00	-2.10	5.94
(Accum Units)	150.10	157.80	+1.00	5.94
Gold & General	198.00	212.90	-1.70	0.44
(Accum Units)	202.40	217.60	-1.80	0.44
Govt Securities	97.28	100.30	+0.92	7.09
(Accum Units)	180.20	185.80	+1.70	7.09
Income	158.30	168.60†	+0.50	4.04
(Accum Units)	240.10	255.60†	+0.80	4.04
International	467.80	498.40	+2.50	0.56
(Accum Units)	623.90	664.70	+3.40	0.56
Japan	208.20	220.80	+2.00	...
(Accum Units)	213.70	226.60	+1.90	...
New Europe	179.70	191.70†	-0.60	1.35
(Accum Units)	183.80	196.00†	-0.60	1.35
Pacific	133.80	142.70	-1.10	0.59
(Accum Units)	142.30	151.80	-1.10	0.59
Recovery	352.90	376.40	...	2.38
(Accum Units)	447.40	477.20	-0.10	2.38
UK Smaller Cos	64.34	68.63†	-0.01	1.59
(Accum Units)	72.33	77.15†	-0.01	1.59
Portfolio	82.66	88.01	-0.75	2.57
(Accum Units)	96.17	102.30†	+0.50	2.57
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 0707 662 233				
Eurogrowth Plus	118.48	126.04	+0.48	0.85
Intl Strategy	67.69	72.01	+0.29	0.07
UK Income Inc	78.63	83.65†	+0.43	4.48
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966				
International (US$)	13.41	14.26	...	...
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD 20 Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 1UT Dealers: 071 826 0826 Enquiries: 071 826 0123				
American Gwth	330.50	351.80	+5.90	...
European Gth Inc	394.60	420.80	+3.10	...
Intl Gwth	202.00	215.90	-0.40	...
UK Equity Inc	185.50	198.10†	-0.30	2.95
UK Ind Trckr Inc	162.70	174.10†	-0.70	2.79
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	199.80	211.90†	+0.40	1.44
Japan Tracker	82.93	87.82	+0.82	...
Asian Trader	220.30	238.00	-1.70	0.42
Managed Inc	155.00	166.70	-0.50	1.58
Deposit Inc	99.91	99.91†	-0.01	5.21
Europa	178.00	190.30†	-0.30	...
Genesis	165.50	180.00	-0.30	...
High Income	23.54	24.94	+0.01	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT 7 West Nile St, Glasgow G1 2PX 0345 090 933				
Acumen	98.66	100.90	-0.40	2.12
Acumen Inc	94.97	97.07	+0.39	2.12
Acumen Reserve	86.18	87.05	-0.92	6.80
-do- Inc	78.60	79.40	-0.84	6.80
Americas Growth	184.50	189.60†	+0.10	1.14
Cash Income	49.71	50.22†	+0.01	4.38
Equity Income	102.20	105.10†	+0.50	4.23
European	76.50	78.44	-0.44	0.78
Smaller Cos	83.07	86.66	-0.01	0.93
Olympiad	70.70	72.64†	-0.06	...
Global Bond	48.00	48.67†	-0.39	6.14
UK Growth	95.67	98.39	+0.30	1.62
Pacific Growth	111.80	116.20	-0.60	...
Japan Growth	103.20	106.10	+0.40	...
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Avon Equity	121.27	129.01	-0.10	2.79
NM UNIT TRUST MGRS Enterprise Hse, Isambard Brunel Rd, Portsmouth Enq: 0705 882 695 Dlg: 0705 882 600				
NM Managed Portfolio Service				
Cap Gth Inc Inc	109.80	116.80	-0.50	1.52
Open Cap Gth Inc	111.60	118.70	-0.40	1.35
NM Unit Trusts				
American	44.94	47.88	+0.18	1.64
Australian	356.00	381.50	-0.10	...
Conscience	76.75	81.90	-1.03	0.43
European	204.10	217.10	+0.80	0.69
Extra Income	77.97	83.21	+0.09	5.33
Gilt & FI	60.22	63.55	-0.58	5.82
Gold	65.89	70.84	+0.36	...
Income	57.49	61.32	-0.14	3.79
Intnl	34.21	36.58	+0.16	0.68
Jap Smaller Cos	384.90	410.50	+5.50	...
Sing & Malaysian	240.60	258.00	+0.40	...
Smaller Cos	32.25	34.67	+0.08	0.58
Special Sits	38.26	41.13	-0.06	1.49
Sterling Deposit	100.70	100.70	...	4.50
Tokyo	93.75	100.00	+1.41	...
UK Equity	181.00	193.00	-0.30	2.57
US Smaller Cos	117.60	125.70	-1.60	...
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 35 Fountain St, Manchester M2 2AF 061 237 5322				
UK Growth	77.86	82.84	-0.19	1.66
UK Income	113.60	120.90	-0.10	3.35
Gilt & Fixed Int	76.35	80.80†	+0.43	6.37
Higher Income	231.90	246.80	-0.20	4.19
Smaller Cos	90.00	95.75†	-0.04	1.32
International	103.20	109.80	-0.20	1.10
NATIONAL PROV INV MGRS LTD 48 Gracechurch St EC3P 3HH 071 623 4200				
Americas Dist	112.30	120.10	+0.10	...
European Dist	110.50	118.20	+0.80	...
Far East Dist	192.00	205.40†	-0.10	...
Global Care Dist	75.47	80.72	+0.08	2.25
Oseas Dist	1053.8	1129.2	-5.90	0.33
UK Dist	354.70	379.40	-0.70	2.12
UK Extra Inc Dist	78.98	84.47	-0.07	3.41
Wwide Dist	108.20	115.70	+0.80	...
Wwide Inc Dist	73.29	78.39	+0.12	1.98
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Dlg: 0277 690 288 Admin Enq: 0277 690 398				
Europe Inc	62.99	66.48†	+0.32	0.36
Fund of Funds Inc	59.97	63.29	+0.06	0.57
North America Inc	51.77	54.64	+0.04	0.46
UK Equity Gth Inc	62.31	65.76	-0.02	1.58
UK General Inc	60.48	63.83	-0.11	2.01
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	50.26	52.91	-0.28	6.29
UK Income Inc	61.32	64.72†	-0.07	2.53
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD 71 Queen Victoria St, London EC4V 4DR Dealer: 0500 440 000 Private client: 0500 550 000 Broker: 0500 660 000				
Income	236.13	251.20	+0.38	3.20
Global	356.47	379.23†	+1.56	1.04
General	199.96	212.73	-0.61	1.17
Bond	131.81	139.95	+0.79	6.03
Growth	130.61	138.95	-0.04	1.55
Intrepid	127.19	132.49	..	1.70
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS PO Box 124, Surrey Street, Norwich 0603 682 234				
Master Trust	126.14	134.19†	+0.34	1.25
UK Equity	143.22	152.38†	-0.38	2.98
UK Equity Income	138.06	146.89	-0.05	3.26
UK Smaller Cos	130.07	138.37	+0.07	1.41
UK Equity Growth	131.25	140.60†	-1.82	2.59
UK Index Trckg	143.89	153.07†	+1.28	3.16
Intl Index Trckg	148.19	157.65†	+0.78	1.00
International	240.52	255.87	+0.91	0.69
European	190.67	202.84†	+1.05	0.37
Pan European	131.68	140.09	+0.37	1.13
Nth American	165.71	176.29	-1.40	0.45
N Amer Smlr Cos	187.61	199.59	+1.19	...
Japanese	104.10	110.75	+0.98	...
Pacific	247.20	262.98	-0.04	0.07
South East Asian	267.30	284.36	-0.49	0.33
Intl Bond	137.30	145.96	+0.84	4.18
Gilt & Convertible	110.66	117.65	-0.38	9.15
Property	87.29	92.86	-0.02	5.40
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD Pearl Centre, Lynch Wd, Peterborough PE2 6FY Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 0733 470 470				
Equity	247.10	262.80	+1.20	2.13
Growth	159.90	168.20	-0.70	2.29
Income	250.20	266.10	+1.30	3.13
Intl Equity	258.20	274.70	+1.30	0.50
UK Income	68.74	73.13	+0.36	2.76
UK Intl 25	80.46	85.59	+0.36	1.65
New Europe	77.81	82.77	+0.53	...
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT 48 Hart Street, Henley on Thames 0491 417 000				
Intl Gwth	623.61	666.97	-1.29	0.26
Income	347.33	371.48	+0.11	2.83
Wwide Recovery	394.78	422.23	+1.43	0.38
Amer Growth Inc	234.46	250.77†	+0.97	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	261.16	279.32	-0.69	0.07
Far Estn Grth Inc	309.88	331.43	+0.66	0.02
Euro Gwth Inc	145.43	155.55	-1.21	0.61
UK Growth Inc	87.34	93.42†	-0.07	2.34
High Income	95.75	102.41	+0.08	3.72
Jap Gwth Inc	252.17	268.28†	+2.45	0.01
PEP Growth	122.26	130.77	-0.23	0.89
Asian Str Mkts Inc	130.70	139.79	-0.67	0.01
Amer Smlr Co Inc	143.09	153.04	+0.41	0.01
Global Bond	60.18	63.42†	+0.32	5.39
UK Smaller Cos Inc	84.75	90.65	-0.23	0.91
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 39 Pilgrim Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 6RQ Admin & dealing: Unit Trust Accounting & Mgmt Ltd, 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX 071 407 5966				
American	110.10	117.13	+0.34	...
European	71.43	75.99	+0.20	...
Global	70.30	74.79	+0.06	...
Pacific	69.72	74.17	-0.09	0.05
UK Inc & Grth	67.94	72.28	-0.22	1.88
POINTON YORK UT MGRS The Crescent, King St, Leicester LE1 6RX 0533 550 540				
BEI Director Digs	106.47	113.39	+0.65	...
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX 071 407 5966				
Portfolio	165.95	174.68	...	0.61
PREMIUM LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD 37 Perrymount Rd, Haywards Heath 0444 458 721				
Monthly Income	61.97	65.68	-0.04	1.86
Growth Income	64.86	68.75	-0.01	1.42
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 16 South Park, Sevenoaks TN13 1AN 0732 740 700				
Principal Tst	137.51	146.29†	-0.38	1.73
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD Walbrook Hse, 23 Walbrook EC4N 8LD Enquiries: 071 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	98.04	104.30	+0.10	3.22
Conv & Gilt	125.70	133.70†	+0.50	5.17
European Income	79.01	84.05	+0.34	2.52
Extra Income	160.70	171.00†	+0.10	3.36
Far East	421.30	448.20	+1.70	0.14
Global Income	27.94	29.72	...	4.21
High Income	123.50	131.30	+0.10	3.15
International	217.80	231.70	-0.10	0.54
Pref & Fxd Int	45.30	48.09	+0.13	6.59
Recovery	86.54	91.00	-0.25	1.84
Special Sits	113.60	120.90	-0.10	1.06
Technology	358.90	381.80	+4.10	...
UK Blue Chip	71.12	75.66†	+0.03	2.64
PROSPERITY UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 1 Scanlons Hse Sq, Maidstone ME14 1XX 0622 674 751				
General	55.04	58.55	+0.57	2.40
International	96.86	102.82	+0.53	0.66
Gilt	25.97	26.77†	+0.10	6.60
Income & Gwth	75.72	80.55†	+0.25	4.52
European	54.35	57.82†	+0.11	1.11
American	55.04	58.55	+0.21	0.05
Emerging Mkts	96.75	102.93	-0.30	0.49
UK Smaller Cos	33.13	35.24†	-0.08	1.53
Gilt/Fixed Interest	27.46	29.21†	-0.14	5.49
Global PEP	41.41	44.05	+0.01	1.42
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL FD MGRS LTD 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 0256 768 888				
European Inc	261.60	279.80	-1.70	0.72
Japan Inc	115.00	122.90	+0.60	...
Nth American Inc	116.30	125.10	+0.50	0.12
Worldwide Inc	173.50	186.70	+0.60	0.68
Hong Kong Inc	158.40	170.80	-2.00	0.19
Swiss Equities Inc	68.12	73.01	-0.11	0.35
Wwide Bond Inc	64.27	68.21†	+0.55	5.11
Emrging Asia Inc	203.80	221.80	...	0.40
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.20	51.22†	+0.01	4.75
Thailand Inc	141.30	152.60	+0.30	0.88
Gold Trust Inc	85.14	91.93	+0.30	0.18
New Zealand Inc	93.84	100.40	+0.40	1.06
Int Mngd PEP Inc	68.36	74.05†	+0.13	1.63
Latin Am Cntrs Inc	92.85	99.41	-1.99	0.01
UK All Sh Mltr Inc	59.36	63.82†	-0.07	2.15
Le Fond Francais	72.55	77.98	-0.06	0.38
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	83.09	88.87	+0.08	1.43
Global Portfolio	74.97	79.84	-0.17	...
Global Opps	75.39	80.63	+0.03	0.43
Marsh Global Grth	71.60	75.93	+0.13	1.62
AAM Global Equity	58.37	61.87	+0.42	0.78
CAM Brit Gwth Inc	94.53	101.80	...	0.86
CAM Brit Inc Inc	...	...	...	...
CAM Int Recvy Inc	51.24	55.48	-0.40	0.92
Temple Equity Inc	48.58	52.95	-0.04	3.69
Hartley Growth	82.57	87.84	+2.77	0.56
Intl Growth Inc	86.18	92.17	+0.07	1.40
IPS Portfolio Inc	91.65	98.02	+0.08	0.22
St Jms Min Inc Inc	50.51	53.05	-0.02	2.42
Premier Portfos Inc	72.38	77.41	+0.08	0.84
Roxborgh Strat Gth	76.57	81.89	-0.17	0.34
Tech Analysis	109.60	116.60	+0.43	0.30
Rosebery Growth	45.81	49.30†	+0.40	...
International Strat	79.01	85.46†	+0.20	...
UFC Ind-Act Grth	57.23	61.20	+0.21	...
Coverdale Topout	53.14	57.33	+0.15	...
Prem Equity Inc	98.66	104.70	+0.10	0.58
Lowes Intl Growth	48.78	51.33	+0.02	1.12
PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD 25-31 Moorgate, London EC2R 6BA 071 588 3963				
Equity Gth	172.90	183.90†	+0.60	1.62
European Gth	99.17	105.10	+0.30	0.42
Income & Gth	141.30	150.90†	+0.50	2.47
Japan Gth	131.40	139.20	+1.70	...
Nth Amer Gth	118.40	126.00	...	...
Overseas Gth	92.14	95.89	+0.11	...
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 51-59 Ilford Hill, Ilford, Essex IG1 2DL 081 478 3377 Client Enq: 071 911 4490 Intermed dlg: 071 911 4314 Pricebank: 0426 925 091				
Managed Tst	37.58	40.10†	-0.06	1.33
Cash Haven Inc	101.14	101.63†	...	3.91
Cash Haven Acc	108.24	108.77†	+0.01	3.91
Global Growth	92.05	98.44†	...	1.02
Equity Inc	87.25	93.31†	-0.14	3.27
Equity	739.13	790.51	-0.59	2.39
European	214.70	229.62	+0.70	0.70
High Income	93.84	100.40	+0.01	3.11
Intl Grth	188.50	201.60	+0.41	0.77
Intl Sm Co	83.56	89.68	+0.18	0.28
Japanese	227.52	243.16†	+2.73	...
Nth Amer	164.44	175.51	+0.28	0.90
Pacific Mkts	104.88	112.17	-0.37	0.61
Premier Inc	51.51	53.62	+0.40	6.06
Sm Cos	96.37	103.06	-0.03	1.77
Spec Sits	112.78	120.62	-0.22	3.08
UK Growth	122.85	131.39†	-0.26	2.01
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD Reliance House, Tunbridge Wells, Kent 0892 510 033				
British Life	319.50	338.90	+1.10	2.81
Reliance Inc	177.10	188.30	+0.90	2.42
ROCK ASSET MGMT (UNIT TRUST) LTD Bulman House, Regent Centre, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3NG 091 285 2555				
Managed	101.10	107.30	+0.10	1.81
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT St Swithin's Lane, London EC4 Dealers: 071 280 5000				
FA America (Inc)	553.24	589.13	+1.95	0.54
FA America (Acc)	644.69	686.51	+2.27	0.54
FA UK Equity Inc	165.18	176.09	-0.72	3.07
FA Japan	294.78	313.92	+2.49	...
FA Major UK Cos	99.12	105.95	-0.58	2.01
FA Smllr UK Cos	318.17	345.37†	-0.17	0.74
FA European	317.26	335.63	-1.49	0.57
FA Amer Smllr Cos	48.34	51.72	+0.15	...
FA Asia	53.19	57.38	-0.23	...
FA Jap Smllr Cos	55.69	59.46	+0.08	...
RAM Personal Pension				
UK Major Cos	97.44	102.56	+0.57	...
UK Smllr Cos	90.21	94.95	+0.05	...
UK Income	95.01	100.00	+0.40	...
America	110.40	116.20	+0.39	...
Japanese	64.62	68.01	+0.53	...
European	100.74	106.03	+0.31	...
Gilt	88.15	92.78	+0.79	...
Deposit	79.72	83.91	+0.01	...
Managed	101.52	106.86	+0.43	...
RAM FSAVC Scheme				
UK Major Cos	95.06	100.06	+0.55	...
UK Smaller Cos	88.34	92.98	+0.05	...
UK Income	92.88	97.76	+0.40	...
America	107.71	113.37	+0.37	...
Japanese	63.07	66.38	+0.52	...
European	98.33	103.50	+0.31	...
Gilt	87.15	91.73	+0.74	...
Deposit	76.17	80.18	...	...
Managed	96.39	101.46	+0.33	...
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD PO Box 34, Peterborough PE2 6UE Prices: 0733 282 828 Gen Enq: 0733 390 000 Dealing: 0733 393 000				
United States	77.65	82.77	+1.32	0.10
Pacific Basin	87.29	93.61	+0.32	...
High Inc Dist	131.90	141.00†	-1.80	4.31
Ryl Life Int Cntry	62.50	66.24†	-0.60	3.40
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	71.23	76.05	+0.74	0.31
Ryl Life Intl Spec	65.43	69.60	+0.60	...
UK Emerging Cos	126.20	136.30	-0.10	1.38
UK Index Trckg	169.00	180.00	-0.10	3.06
European	126.60	135.70	+0.80	0.28
Managed	149.70	161.00†	+0.90	0.80
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD Royal Ldn Hse, Colchester CO1 1RA 0206 764 400				
American Growth	151.40	162.40	-0.70	0.27
European Growth	113.10	119.50†	-0.70	0.71
Far East Growth	135.30	144.00	-0.30	0.04
Japan Growth	154.40	164.20	-0.20	...
Special Sits	209.80	223.10†	-0.20	1.16
UK Growth	80.59	85.73	+0.78	1.84
Trikon General	248.00	263.90	+0.40	0.42
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NS 041 307 6500				
Far East Inc	187.30	198.20	-0.70	0.15
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	356.50	377.20	-0.50	0.22
Growth Inc	134.60	142.40	+0.40	0.11
International Inc	348.90	369.20	+0.70	0.44
Nth Am & Intl Inc	335.50	355.00	-1.90	0.18
UK Gen Prog Inc	219.30	232.10	-0.30	0.31
UK High Inc Inc	141.50	149.70	+0.10	3.27
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD City Place Hse, 55 Basinghall St EC2V 5DU 071 330 0572				
American Gwth	67.04	71.32	-0.11	...
Amer Smlr Cos	87.11	92.68	+0.10	...
Asian Gwth	113.82	121.08†	-0.85	0.75
European Gwth	71.24	75.79	+0.52	1.00
Global Bd	60.80	64.26†	+0.44	5.00
Global Eq	70.37	74.86	+0.45	0.50
Japanese Eq	63.62	67.69	+0.56	...
Japan Sm Cos	75.36	80.07†	+0.68	...
UK Gen	56.90	60.53	+0.23	2.80
UK Gwth	61.86	65.81	+0.34	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 16-22 Western Rd, Romford RM1 3LB 0708 766 966				
Amer Inc & Gwth	72.52	77.15	+0.11	3.78
Amer Smllr Cos	113.20	120.40†	+0.20	...
Asian Smaller Cos	57.12	60.77	-0.22	...
Capital Portfolio	136.20	144.90	+0.50	1.66
Capital	171.30	182.20	+1.00	0.31
Cash	122.20	122.20†	...	5.36
China Dragon	68.28	72.64	-0.75	0.69
Commodity	136.50	145.20†	+0.20	0.54
Eastern Discovery	117.90	125.40	-0.90	...
Energy Inds	122.10	129.90†	+2.00	0.16
European Gwth	202.10	215.00	+2.90	0.08
Euro Inc & Gwth	82.93	88.22	+1.03	1.41
Euro Smllr Cos	54.60	58.08	+0.27	...
Financial Secs	203.40	216.40	+1.70	0.57
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	51.16	54.02†	+0.27	8.13
Gold & Exploration	87.98	93.60	-0.15	0.27
High Return	239.60	254.90	+1.00	3.12
High Yield	237.60	252.80	+1.30	3.36
Income	126.10	134.10†	+0.50	4.09
Intl Bond	168.90	178.50†	+0.70	5.43
ITU	219.60	233.60	+0.40	0.51
Japan Growth	187.20	199.10	+2.20	...
Japan Smaller	208.10	221.40	+0.90	...
Korea	83.31	88.63	+0.05	...
Masterfund	58.82	62.57	+0.89	0.52
Scotbits	303.40	322.80	+2.70	0.88
Scotshares	302.30	321.60	+1.60	1.47
Scotyields	245.03	260.60†	+1.20	3.05
Select Intl	149.90	159.50	+0.40	0.52
Smaller Cos Inc	271.80	289.20	+0.20	3.32
SE Asia	632.10	672.40	+0.70	...
Special Situation	129.20	137.40	+0.80	0.50
UK Equity	250.60	266.60	+2.70	2.53
UK Growth	68.64	73.02	-0.35	1.38
UK Smllr Cos Gwth	50.84	54.09†	+0.05	0.98
US Growth	154.50	164.40†	+0.30	0.10
Unly Growth	149.50	159.00	+0.40	0.34
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD Senator House, 85 Queen Victoria St EC4V 4EJ Client: 0800 526 535 Broker: 0800 526 540 General Enquiries: 071 382 3800				
Retail Funds				
American	256.09	272.28	+0.08	0.76
Australian	...	...	...	...
European Gwth	75.73	80.64	+0.38	0.67
Euro Smllr Cos	75.74	80.76	+0.43	0.10
Far Eastern Gth	104.14	111.08	+0.26	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	54.89	57.86†	+0.25	7.07
Global Bond	53.87	55.67	+0.25	5.02
Global Emer Mkts	59.40	63.35	-0.42	...
Income	366.37	390.79†	+0.34	3.46
Japan Smllr Cos	521.13	555.87	+4.69	...
Japan Enterprise	76.34	81.42	+0.60	...
Pacific Gwth	140.92	150.31†	+0.04	...
Seoul	56.52	60.80	+0.49	...
Smaller Cos	227.77	242.95	+0.76	0.35
Tokyo	130.47	139.16†	+1.73	...
UK Enterprise	253.01	269.87	+0.69	2.01
UK Equity	246.46	262.60†	+0.15	2.42
US Smllr Cos	161.24	171.98	-0.13	...
World Fd	82.32	87.80†	+0.04	1.69
Institutional Funds				
European	237.86	247.77	+1.81	1.13
Euro Smllr Cos	30.07	31.32	+0.17	1.41
Global Equity Inc	79.95	83.28	-0.31	0.53
Japan Smllr Cos	40.42	42.10	+0.43	0.16
Mngd Balanced	192.80	200.83	+0.63	2.41
Overseas Equity	192.14	200.14	-0.89	0.56
Oseas Smllr Cos	131.35	136.82†	-0.83	0.29
Pacific	260.72	271.58	-0.66	0.81
Recovery	2044.3	2129.5	-2.04	2.34
UK Index	159.26	165.89	-0.84	2.74
UK Small Cos	124.78	129.97†	-0.02	2.11
US Smllr Cos	46.10	48.02	-0.04	0.14
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD 150 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5NQ 041 204 2280				
Equity Income	52.93	56.37	+0.51	2.69
Equity Trust	61.47	65.47	+0.65	2.17
Equity Strategy	73.56	78.34	+0.67	0.72
European Opps	89.14	94.93	+1.02	0.62
UK Smaller Cos	69.35	73.86	+0.02	0.90
Maximum Income	98.26	100.79	...	4.57
Japanese	85.62	91.19	+0.94	...
Asia Pacific	134.56	143.31	-0.32	0.51
American	110.68	117.87	+0.53	0.27
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD 28 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh 0800 454 422				
Cash	29.99	29.99	+0.01	4.637
UK General Inc	54.22	57.84	+0.29	2.42
Intl Income	295.10	314.60	+1.30	1.43
European	73.78	83.32	+0.34	1.39
Japan	75.51	80.44	+0.74	0.10
American	68.46	72.42	+0.35	1.95
Far East	96.34	102.76	+0.14	0.49
Ethical Inc	32.73	35.01	+0.03	1.49
UK Blue Chip Inc	34.24	36.61†	+0.09	2.37
High Inc Inc	38.74	41.33	+0.10	3.08
UK Global Inc	42.08	44.92†	+0.20	1.71
Wwide Tact	78.81	84.24	-0.07	0.90
Europe 2000 Tact	54.96	58.33	+0.20	0.91
Technology	107.92	114.64†	+0.07	0.86
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh 031 225 2211				
UK Equity	391.40	418.20	-1.90	2.52
American	273.10	290.00	+0.40	0.52
Pacific	418.00	447.10	+0.10	0.55
European	547.30	585.30	+2.30	0.89
Worldwide	97.33	104.10	-0.10	0.72
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD 109 St Vincent St, Glasgow G2 5HN 041 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	282.80	300.90	+1.30	2.03
UK Slr Co Eq Inc	217.90	231.90	+0.40	1.28
Select Opptny Inc	70.85	75.78†	+0.24	1.93
Income Plus Inc	75.04	79.84†	+0.40	3.98
European Inc	353.50	376.10	+1.40	1.48
Far Eastern Inc	180.40	192.00	-0.60	0.77
Japanese Inc	70.65	75.17	+0.07	...
Nth American Inc	262.81	279.10	+0.86	0.18
Intl Growth Inc	217.40	231.90	+0.23	0.55
Wwide Venture Inc	83.57	89.29	+0.30	0.30
SCOTTISH PROV INV MGMT LTD 6 St Andrew Sq, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 031 558 2240				
Equity Growth Inc	24.92	26.67	+0.09	2.81
Intl Growth Inc	32.74	35.04	+0.06	0.61
Market Leaders Inc	23.15	24.93†	+0.10	2.69
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 031 655 5724				
Equity Inc	388.10	414.50	+1.50	2.81
UK High Inc	201.40	214.80	+1.90	3.52
Europe Inc	350.30	373.50	+1.60	0.38
Nth Amer Inc	225.30	241.02	+0.40	...
Global Inc	220.70	235.40	+0.80	0.50
UK Spec Sits Inc	111.70	119.20	+0.90	2.63
South East Asia	249.30	265.20	-0.10	0.43
Cash Trust Inc	101.00	101.00	...	4.41
UK Smllr Cos Inc	115.40	123.10	...	1.50
Intl Bond Inc	98.10	104.31	+0.40	5.80
SEMPER EADEM FUND MGMT LTD 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Sector Recovery	173.90	182.80†	-0.30	3.85
SHARP (ALBERT E) & CO 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
European	127.30	134.60	+0.60	0.77
Nth American	106.00	112.50	+0.80	0.42
Intl Bond & Curn	135.00	142.70	+0.50	4.34
Pooled Pension (a)	191.30	204.40	+0.40	...
Smaller Cos	74.55	78.45	-2.30	1.16
UK General	135.90	142.40	+0.80	1.81
SHEPPARDS UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 1 White Hart Yard, London Bridge SE1 071 407 5966				
Income	422.57	449.54†	-0.70	4.10
Global Inc	69.38	73.81†	+0.08	3.94
Brit Leaders	336.09	357.54†	-1.34	2.25
Intl Leaders	212.68	226.26†	-0.11	0.59
PAM Mg Bal Grth	60.41	64.02†	+0.21	0.40
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 21 New St, London EC2M 3HR 071 626 4226				
European ‡	124.20	...	+0.90	...
Global Bond ‡	105.40	...	+0.30	7.07
Samurai ‡	99.63	...	+1.24	...
UK Growth ‡	116.00	...	-0.70	3.51
Tai Pan ‡	137.40	...	-0.20	...
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS 1 Riding House St, London W1A 3AS 071 637 5377				
American	306.50	324.30	-2.30	0.25
Canadian	82.01	86.78	+0.77	0.28
Capital	138.40	146.30	+0.30	0.10
Cash	101.94	101.94	+0.01	4.56
European	138.70	146.80	+1.00	0.30
Far Eastern	179.60	190.00†	-0.20	...
Growth	151.00	159.80	-0.20	0.87
Income	133.50	141.20†	+1.00	4.15
Magnum	149.30	159.10	+0.50	0.11
Smllr Secs	395.30	418.20†	-0.10	0.53
Thoroughbred	172.10	184.80	+0.50	0.74
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 12 Christchurch Rd, Bournemouth 0202 298 422				
Cash	50.22	50.72	+0.01	4.43
Capital Preference	60.48	64.47†	-0.03	7.20
Ethical	60.28	64.12†	-0.06	2.00
European Growth	74.65	79.42	+0.23	2.10
Income	58.68	62.99	-0.09	5.20
Intl Growth	101.20	107.90	-0.30	2.50
Managed	83.92	89.51	-0.05	3.20
UK Growth	64.83	68.94†	-0.19	3.48
STANDARD LIFE TST MGMT LTD 3 George St, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 0800 393 777				
Managed Acc	52.10	55.30	+0.40	1.14
UK Equity Gth Acc	74.53	79.10	+0.70	1.81
-do- High Inc Inc	39.83	42.32	+0.40	2.91
-do- High Inc Acc	47.82	50.81	+0.50	2.91
UK Equity Gen Acc	63.61	67.50	+0.60	1.65
UK Equity Gen Inc	47.95	50.95	+0.50	1.65
UK Lrgr Co Acc	442.00	479.60	+4.40	3.19
UK Lrgr Co Inc	335.30	361.90	+3.50	3.19
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	33.25	35.17	+0.30	5.46
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	321.00	348.70	-1.10	1.15
Nth American Acc	45.70	48.65	+0.10	0.66
Far East Acc	69.85	74.22	-0.20	0.13
European Acc	51.33	54.54	+0.40	0.55
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD 28 King Street, London SW1 6QW 071 344 7000				
Global A (N25)	3.925	4.168	+0.004	1.26
US Eqts (US$)	2.313	2.455	+0.005	0.65
Far East Eqts (yen)	262.30	278.60	+5.60	...
Japan Eqties (yen)	261.30	277.50	+1.30	...
FT Europe	131.70	139.90	+1.60	1.73
FT N Amer (US$)	1.779	1.886	+0.007	1.18
FT Japan (yen)	248.30	263.70	+7.30	...
FT Asia Exjap (US$)	2.513	2.669	-0.007	0.36
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD 45 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031 226 3271				
American	382.40	408.00	+0.90	0.06
British	1101.4	1167.4†	+1.20	3.14
Emrging Mkts	166.00	172.70	-1.50	0.30
European	531.70	566.30	+1.70	0.97
Japan	168.91	179.30†	+1.10	...
New Pacific	395.20	422.70	-1.80	0.70
Investment Tst	237.10	251.30†	-0.30	0.97
Mngd Equity	183.60	194.20	+0.10	1.36
Mngd Cash	96.13	96.13	+0.01	4.54
Majority Stg	...	...	...	...
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 5 Rayleigh Rd, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 690 389				
Equity	848.00	902.00	-0.30	2.94
North America	135.80	145.20	+1.10	0.32
Far East	160.30	171.40	+0.60	...
Wwide Bond	60.91	64.66	+0.32	4.66
European	108.20	115.70	+0.70	...
Equity Income	97.05	103.80	-0.10	4.02
Portfolio	90.14	96.41	+0.29	0.66
UK Leading Cos	60.30	64.15	-0.10	3.57
Broker Trusts				
Intnl Equity	72.18	77.20	+0.30	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants 0800 525 725				
American Growth	36.08	38.59	+0.05	0.53
Managed Assets	133.41	142.69	+0.73	2.44
UK Income	41.21	44.08	+0.32	2.62
UK Growth	40.73	43.57	+0.20	2.00
Worldwide Growth	36.47	39.01	-0.10	0.24
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD 101, Cannon St, London EC4N 5AD Admin & Enq: 071 606 4044 Dlg: 071 606 6010				
Master Portfolio	51.36	54.93	+0.11	...
Cap Protector Inc	44.53	47.63	-0.04	2.19
UK Income Inc	54.90	58.72	-0.16	2.51
Mngd Extra Inc Inc	33.79	36.14	-0.04	3.34
Mngd High Yld Inc	83.88	89.71†	-0.02	3.44
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	80.12	85.69	-0.17	2.47
Mngd Wwide Gth	38.96	41.67	+0.18	...
UK Smaller Cos	36.75	39.31	-0.04	1.45
Pacific Grth Port	46.77	50.02†	-0.20	...
SWISS LIFE UNIT TST MAN CO LTD 5 Rayleigh Road, Hutton, Brentwood, Essex Enquiries: 0277 227 300 Dealing: 0277 261 010				
Equity Dist	566.30	599.30	-0.40	1.98
Fixed Int Dist	125.50	130.10	+0.50	6.93
UK Indx Trck Dist	135.30	143.20	-0.20	2.70
TSB UNIT TRUSTS Charlton Pl, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 0264 346 794				
American	228.34	242.91	+1.63	...
Brit Growth	96.94	103.12	-0.04	1.75
European	113.46	120.70†	+0.62	0.24
Extra Income	209.48	222.85†	-0.07	3.53
Smaller Cos	80.81	85.97†	+0.04	0.81
General	294.80	313.62	-1.14	2.06
Premier Income	54.64	56.92	+0.29	5.48
Income	366.92	390.23	+0.10	3.12
Pacific	442.88	471.14	+0.64	...
International	575.67	612.41	+0.74	0.09
Nat Resources	181.70	193.29	-0.37	0.18
Stead Opps	117.12	124.59†	-0.31	0.91
Environmental Inv	65.26	69.42	-0.03	1.49
Selector	68.23	72.58	-0.03	2.06
High Income	68.45	72.82	+0.12	4.08
Intl Income	61.00	64.90†	-1.22	4.59
Selector Income	65.56	69.74	+0.10	4.84
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 081 667 1818				
British	346.60	364.80	-0.70	2.45
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Saltire Court, 20 Castle Terrace, Edinburgh EH1 2EH 031 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	207.50	221.92	+0.11	1.41
Glob Balncd Inc	177.79	190.15	+0.77	2.49
Value Tst Inc	126.69	135.50	+0.87	1.35
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 33 Queen Street, London EC4R 1AX 071 246 3000 Dealing: 071 246 3001				
Amer Smllr Cos	70.39	75.08†	+0.28	..
European Opps	...	...	...	...
Dresdner Eur Bd	42.75	44.92†	+0.21	8.44
Japan Tst	93.54	99.77	+0.95	..
Little Dragons	102.32	109.14	-0.68	0.43
Oriental Income	49.67	52.98	-0.05	4.67
Tiger	287.10	306.24	-1.63	0.52
UK Blue Chip	65.09	69.52	-0.35	2.84
UK Smllr Cos	110.33	117.09†	+0.07	1.71
Formerly AEtna				
Nth Amer Gwth	234.53	249.50	+0.61	0.63
European Growth	284.27	301.31	+1.04	0.85
Exempt	552.25	576.70	-1.47	3.32
Far Eastern	...	...	...	...
UK High Yield	110.44	117.48	-0.08	3.36
Iberian Growth	51.02	54.28†	+0.38	0.03
Intl Growth	111.66	119.01	+0.23	0.58
Preference	130.21	138.52	+0.51	7.88
UK Recovery	284.36	302.51	-0.49	1.79
UK Smlr Cos Div	109.38	116.36	-0.19	4.17
Smaller Cos	...	...	...	...
UK Growth	533.63	567.69	-1.35	2.09
WARDLEY UNIT TST MGRS LTD 3 Harbour Exchange Sq, London E14 9GJ 071 955 5055				
Exempt	371.70	391.30	...	2.01
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD 13 Charlotte Sq, Edinburgh 031 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	33.97	36.13	-0.41	...
Pacific Basin	42.17	44.86	+0.06	0.60
Can Balncd Gwth	36.41	38.73	+0.15	..
Global Bond (US$)	0.915	0.9531	+0.002	5.79
Penny Share	31.28	33.27	+0.07	1.50
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 2 Honey Lane, London EC2V 8BT 071 606 0462				
Challenger	100.50	102.80	+1.10	...
Short Dtd Gilt	113.50	115.00	-0.60	...
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.7239	0.7330	...	2.27
Gilt Income	53.52	55.69†	-0.16	6.75
Gilt Growth	74.63	77.24	+0.89	...
City Reserve	52.14	52.15	...	4.18
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 2 White Oak Square, Swanley BR8 7AG 081 298 4000				
Stockmarket Fd	80.73	85.87	-0.40	1.67

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data.

Profit-takers move in

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 14. Dealings end March 25. §Contango day March 28. Settlement day April 5. §Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1993/94 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
554	345	Abbey Ntl	483 †	-7	...	3.6	16.2
314	179	Allied Irish	264 †	-1	...	4.7	∞
228½	130	Aus New Z	251	-3½	...	3.6	19.7
3806¼	2712½	Bankamerica	2862½	+25	...	...	...
319	177	Bk of Ireland	263	-1	...	4.7	19.4
450	325	Bk Leumi UK	430 †	...	20.0	5.8	∞
247	116½	Bank Scotland	196	-1	4.6	3.0	26.6
652	362	Barclays	557 †	+2	...	3.4	28.4
37	8	Carlisle	32½	...	...	...	...
655	395	Cater Allen	571	+2	28.0	6.1	...
180	85	Cattles	158	+3	...	3.6	21.0
2487½	1547½	Chase Manh	2212½	...	...	...	...
2912½	1347½	Citicorp	2687½	+31½	...	...	...
571	250	Close Bros	540 †	+15	...	3.0	14.6
£157¼	9171½	Commerzbk	£144½	-78½	...	2.6	...
£348¼	£230½	Deutsche Bk	£325½	+49½	...	1.9	...
95	45	First Nat Fin	83	+1	...	2.3	...
1651	876	Fuji Bank Y	1445½	+17½	...	0.4	...
529	343	Gerrard Nat	435	-3	21.5	6.2	11.6
1113	490	HSBC	839 †	-70	23.5	3.5	∞
1133	474	HSBC HK	860 †	-18	23.5	3.4	∞
473	243	Hambros	378	+14	14.3	4.7	17.5
443	313	Joseph (L)	433	...	16.7	4.8	...
170	96	King Shaxson	151	...	9.0	7.5	...
693	312	Kleinwort Ben	548 †	+16	18.5	4.2	∞
690	492	Lloyds	586 †	-13	...	4.7	12.4
118	63	Lon Scot Bk	115 †	+4	3.4	3.7	19.4
620½	322	Nat Aust Bk	567½	-7½	...	4.2	13.8
634	398	Nat West	497 †	...	...	4.7	13.7
573	220	Provident	500 †	...	16.0	4.0	∞
68	39	Rea Bros	68	+4	0.7	1.4	∞
528	207	Ryl Bk Scot	437	+1	...	3.1	19.8
1460	467½	Schroders	1170	+80	16.5	1.8	∞
1457	576	Stand Chart	1101 †	+9	...	2.7	10.8
281	145½	TSB	238 †	-4	...	4.0	16.2
286	78	Union	172 †	...	3.0	2.2	∞
1012	529	Warburg SG	803	+1	...	3.1	11.7
9343¾	4843¾	Wells Fargo	9337½	+50	...	2.9	...
260	121	Westpac	246	-1	...	2.2	∞
390	188	Wintrust	365 †	...	...	3.3	32.6

BREWERIES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
697	517	Allied-Lyons	623	-6	...	4.3	17.3
647	441	Bass	525	-3	...	4.7	14.0
299	189	Boddington	279 †	-1	...	3.6	14.2
499	362	Bulmer (HP)	442	-8	...	2.9	17.7
193	129	Burtonwd Brw	171	...	4.7	3.5	14.3
181	75	Eldridge P 'A'	160	...	...	2.8	22.2
70½	30	Fosters Brewing	60½	+1½	...	4.8	71.4
493	338	Fullr Sm 'A'	455	...	7.5	2.1	19.1
506	373	Grand Met	473 †	-13	...	3.4	20.5
511	347	Greenalls Grp	442	-2	...	3.5	15.0
594	505	Greene King	507	-1	...	3.1	14.2
542	388	Guinness	502	-7	...	3.0	18.8
281	230	Hardy Hansn	255	...	...	4.2	13.6
160	105	Heavitree	160	...	...	2.8	14.5
457	233	Highland Distl	425	...	...	1.9	21.1
3225	2538	Holt J	3150	...	42.0	1.7	20.5
186	118	Macallan-Glen	146	...	4.3	3.8	32.8
465	365	Macdn Mrtn 'A'	445	...	...	2.5	21.2
246	164	Mansfield	203	...	...	2.5	14.5
302	231	Mrston Thmp	277	-3	...	2.5	15.4
595	289½	Matthew Clark	563 †	...	...	4.0	32.3
300	125	Mrydwn W	151	...	7.0	5.8	15.5
580	455	Morland	500	...	...	2.4	17.2
12	6¼	Paramount▲	9½	...	...	1.9	17.8
267	145	Regent Inns	251 †	+1	...	2.0	25.5
1521½	753½	SA Breweries	1347½	-12½	...	2.0	22.2
591	393	Scot & New	545	...	...	3.9	16.7
225	148	Taunton Cider	151	-1	6.2	5.2	11.8
306	213	Vaux Group	286	-½	...	4.2	18.4
403½	216	Wetherspoon JD	365 ↓	-2	...	2.0	28.3
617	435	Whitbread	552	-1	...	4.1	13.3
613	463	Wolvrhmptn D	508	...	...	3.1	14.3
538	475	Young 'A'	528	...	14.7	3.5	21.8

BUILDING, ROADS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
205	73	Abbey	185	...	...	1.4	30.4
27	12	Albrighton▲	24	...	...	0.5	...
200	87	Allen▲	192	...	...	3.3	43.5
164	65	Amec	155	...	3.0	2.4	28.7
454	150	Ashtead▲	424 †	...	...	1.4	28.3
165	101	Attwoods	134	+2	...	4.7	...
383	180	BPB Ind	337	-3	...	2.8	40.3
127	57	Baggeridge Brk	108	...	...	3.6	32.5
41	18	Bailey (Ben) Con	39	+1½	0.6	1.9	...
108	68	Barcom	81	+1	...	4.6	9.7
60	32½	Bardon	52	-1	2.0	4.8	25.6
282	94	Barratt Devs	257	+2	...	1.9	27.6
304	152½	Bellway	262	-1	...	2.9	24.6
59	15	Bellwinch	53	...	...	...	...
243	98	Berisford Intl	234 †	...	...	...	...
573	285½	Berkeley Gp	529	-1	...	1.5	28.5
163	48	Ben Bros	163	...	...	1.5	21.0
93	36	Blockleys	75	+1	1.0	1.7	...
391	189	Blue Circle	354	-5	...	4.0	...
355	230	Boot (Henry)	335	...	6.0	2.2	18.7
117	78	Breedon PLC	102	...	4.6	5.6	25.1
154	82	Br Dredging	143	...	5.2	4.5	31.7
98	45	Brit Fittings	93	...	1.7	2.4	...
197½	99	Bryant	175 †	...	...	3.4	26.6
146	53	CALA	142	-1	...	2.0	...
409	200	CRH	407	-2	...	2.3	∞
70	18	Cakebread Rby	53	...	...	...	...
42	21	Costain	39	...	...	...	10.6
185	86½	Countryside	172 †	-3	...	3.0	38.2
120	35½	Crest Nicholson	110 †	...	...	1.1	...
140	27	Cussins	129	...	3.0	3.0	∞
25½	15	Edmond Hldgs	25	+1	0.3	1.5	...
340	178	Epwin	340	...	...	2.8	22.1
82	32	Erith	68	-2	0.3	0.6	...
506	252	Eve Group▲	463 †	...	...	2.8	17.5
245	97	Freeman Gp▲	232 †	...	6.0	3.2	∞
60	38	Galliford	53 †	...	...	2.4	...
102	52	Gibbs & Dandy	101 †	...	2.5	3.1	...
1025	695	Gleeson (MJ)	1015	...	...	1.6	17.6
173½	75	Hewden-Stuart	155	...	...	2.2	33.2
53	28	Hewetson	51 †	...	...	3.1	37.7
473	173	Heywd Wlms	441	+4	13.0	4.0	∞
145	37	Higgs & Hill	130	...	2.5	2.4	...
38	26	How Gp	36	...	...	4.8	...
32	15	Howard Hldgs	26	...	0.5	2.4	...
100	39	Ibstock Johnsen	88	...	1.0	1.4	...
28	12½	Jarvis	26	+½	...	...	...
422	196	Laing (J)	384	-1	9.0	2.9	15.4
164	103	-do- 6.4% Cv Pf	148	...	...	5.4	...
165	55	Ln Clydeside▲	140	...	...	4.3	27.5
220	100	Lovell (YJ)	140	...	...	...	...
405	240	Manders	350 †	...	10.0	3.6	∞
217½	93	Marley	195	-10	...	2.7	26.4
155	61	Marshalls	136 †	...	...	3.6	...
253	122	Maunders (J)	251	...	...	2.6	24.2
330	96	McAlpine (A)	304 †	...	...	2.7	40.0
82½	23	McCarthy & S	72	...	0.5	0.9	...
569	272	Meyer Int	543	-2	...	2.3	54.4
190½	62	Mowlem (J)	162	-2	4.0	3.1	...
234	51	NSM	234	+2	...	...	...
53	41	Needler▲	41	...	...	4.4	19.1
106	106	Newman Tnks	171	...	...	4.9	22.8
392	197	Persimmon	329	-2	...	3.5	∞
26	9	Phoenix Timber	17	...	...	...	...
1800	1237½	Pochins	1800	...	29.0	2.0	25.7
198	80	Prowting	182	...	3.4	2.3	...
1079	555	RMC Gp	974	+2	...	2.6	36.6
117	75½	Raine Ind	95 †	...	...	2.6	20.6
40	18	Ramus▲	33	...	...	...	...
640	402	Redland	576	+5	25.0	5.4	33.5
86	64	Ruskel	86	...	4.3	6.2	12.7
371	207	Rugby Group	325	-3	6.7	2.6	∞
68	23	Svrild-Rvs▲	56	...	...	0.6	...
189	68	Sharpe & Fisher	166	...	...	3.0	28.9
288	86½	Sheffield Insl	273 †	+6	5.4	2.5	∞
266	82	Sheriff Hldgs▲	253	...	...	1.9	24.1
130	66	Shorco▲	110	...	5.2	5.9	25.0
245	196	Smart (J)	225	...	...	4.7	17.0
6½	1½	Starmin	4½	...	...	...	...
206	100	Tarmac	195	+3	3.5	3.5	...
257	131	Tay Homes	255	...	...	2.9	31.5
183	63	Taylor Woodrw	165	+1	1.0	0.8	...
780	433	Tilbury Dougls	740	+2	33.0	5.6	26.1
60	19	Torex Hire▲	52 †	...	...	1.4	...
370	168	Travis Perkins	364	+5	8.0	2.7	64.1
29½	5½	Trencherwood	24	...	...	...	...
43	25	Try Group	37	...	1.0	3.8	9.3
28	21	Tudor▲	28	+2	0.2	1.1	...
113	41	Vibroplant	99	...	2.5	3.2	35.6
74	20	Ward Hldgs	68	...	...	...	...
45	25	Waterhouse	45	...	...	...	...
500	360	Watts Blake	500	...	...	3.0	21.6
225½	90	Westbury	209	...	5.0	3.0	32.6
7	3	Wiggins	6	...	...	...	...
571	362	Wilson Bowdn	542½	-1½	...	2.0	38.2
259	147	Wilson (C)	222	...	3.9	2.2	38.5
249	104	Wimpey G	209	-1	5.2	3.2	∞
47	15	YRM	28	...	...	...	...

BUSINESS SERVICES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
740	463	ADT	701	...	...	...	∞
433	198	Adam & Harvey	429	...	13.0	3.8	7.9
92	56	Air London▲	71	+1	3.5	6.2	12.7
62	37	African Lakes	61	...	2.0	4.1	...
178	93	Auto Sec	120	-1	...	6.4	21.5
162	84	BET Ord	132½	-½	...	2.1	5.3
145	41	BNB Res	142	...	4.9	4.3	...
318	183	BPP	265	...	8.3	4.2	13.5
186	154	BSM	180	...	...	4.0	∞
285	195	Barbour Index	275 †	-1	8.1	4.7	14.7
1½	0½	Black & Edge▲	1½	+¼	...	...	...
28	15	Boustead	21	...	0.7	4.2	...
269	184	Brit Data Mgt	199 †	-1	4.9	3.1	14.5
30	11	Broadcastle▲	30	...	1.0	4.3	∞
76	48	Brooks Service	69	...	...	0.9	...
130	86	CRT Gp	119 †	...	...	3.0	21.5
240	139½	Capita Group	213	...	2.5	1.5	∞
59	31	Casket Plc	54	...	...	2.1	20.8
55	18½	Cathern Capital	33	-½	...	...	...
85	25	Christie	81	...	...	...	...
423	228	Chubb Sec	375	-8	...	1.8	23.3
132	90	Comac	125	-1	...	1.5	32.3
57	6½	Corp Services	50	...	0.2	0.6	∞
97	20	Coutts Cnslg	95	+1	...	...	...
179	50	Dart	146	...	3.3	2.8	19.8
276	198	Davis Service	261	...	...	3.8	19.7
154	85	EW Fact▲	142	...	4.4	3.9	16.2
34	11	Gardiner	27½	...	...	3.3	12.3
304	215	Hays	302	...	...	2.3	23.2
289	174	Hogg Robinsn	280	...	...	3.0	20.4
70	32	Holmes Protecm	33	...	...	...	2.0
365½	127	Hutch Whamp	276½	-5½	...	1.7	22.9
2895½	975	ISS B DKr	2546½	+8½	...	0.8	∞
637	475	Inchcape	550	-3	...	3.2	17.9
1035	660	Johnson Clean	1018	...	27.0	3.4	∞
12	2½	Lep	7	...	...	...	...
374	173	Mille Gp	373 †	-1	4.0	1.3	25.8
1281½	893½	Manpower	1275	-9½	...	...	...
78½	40½	Michael Page	76	...	1.8	3.0	32.3
133	108	Pennna▲	109	...	8.0	9.2	4.1
5½	2	Prime People▲	4½	...	...	...	...
142	57	Proudfoot	66	...	...	27.6	3.8
423	337	RCO	403 †	...	15.2	4.7	13.5
118	86	REA	106	...	2.0	2.4	...
127	43	Reed Executive	124	...	...	...	...
156	105	Reliance Sec▲	126	...	4.5	4.5	33.0
279	178	Rentokil	256	...	1.5	1.2	31.9
368	220	Rolfe & Nolan	323	-5	...	2.9	22.2
299	267	Salvesen (C)	269	-1	...	3.7	17.6
58	26	Scot Pickford▲	54	...	0.8	1.9	17.2
17½	5	Select App▲	14½	+½	...	...	...
1495	695	Serco Gp	1475 †	...	17.0	1.4	∞
352	81	Sherratt Cmpn▲	81	...	...	10.8	2.4
130	90	Sketchley	114	...	...	3.3	26.1
385	310	Warner Howrd	335	...	0.6	2.5	17.5
45	25	Welpac	25	...	...	...	...
30½	14	Wills Gp	29 †	...	...	1.8	20.3

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
280	210	Allied Colloids	269	+1	...	2.0	24.8
1094	613	Amersham	1046	...	...	1.7	30.1
7	1½	Anglo Utd	3½	...	...	...	...
£125½	8325	BASF DM	£124	-162½	...	3.6	...
375	199	BTP	327	+1	...	3.6	26.3
£150½	£101½	Bayer DM50	£149½	-75	...	2.9	...
185	105	Blagden	156	...	6.5	5.2	16.8
168	93	Brent Chems	107	...	...	4.8	...
550	340	Br Bio-Tech	445	+2	...	...	...
29	5	Caird Gp	11½	...	...	...	29.2
199	126	Canning (W)	167	+1	7.2	5.5	19.2
475	388	Cantab Pharma	460	+2	...	...	...
608	421	Courtaulds	557	-1	...	3.2	13.9
384	228	Croda	380	-1	...	2.6	21.8
149	103	Doeflex	129	...	4.6	4.5	9.9
282	175	Ellis & Everard	249 †	...	...	3.6	20.9
47½	19½	Euro Colour	39	...	0.8	2.8	18.7
351	259	Halstead (J)	340	...	...	2.4	16.8
241	150	Hickson	201	+1	...	5.0	18.6
£129½	8850	Hoechst	£127½	-200	...	2.9	...
239	157	Holliday Chem	210 †	...	4.0	2.4	∞
815	608	ICI	775 †	-4	...	4.4	58.2
841	578	Laporte	804	-3	...	3.3	19.8
248	181	Leigh	218	-1	...	4.5	19.2
97½	35	MTM	62	-1	...	...	...
2400	1462½	Norsk Hydro	2312½	-25	...	1.4	∞
625	380	Paterson Zoch	584	...	...	2.7	15.3
595	360	-do- 'A'	554	...	...	2.9	14.5
246	193	Plysu	243	...	...	3.6	30.7
313	173	Porvair	313 †	...	4.2	1.7	∞

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
70	35	Sutcliffe Speak	65	...	...	...	...
490	412	Wardle Storeys	475	...	...	4.5	22.0
650	395	Wlstnhlme R	650	...	17.0	3.3	22.2
483	330	Yorks Chem	448 †	+3	...	2.3	21.2
312	233	Yule Catto	283	-3	...	2.7	17.6
869	593	Zeneca	740 †	-6	...	4.6	16.3

DRAPERY, STORES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
102	53	Alexon	65	-1	...	5.8	...
248	173	Allders	237	...	...	3.2	17.7
410	257	Argos Plc	357	-3	...	2.5	30.5
25	8	Ashley Group	9	...	...	...	...
118	69	Ashley (Laura)	87	...	0.1	0.1	...
357	278	Asprey	335	...	5.2	2.0	21.8
199	94	Austin Reed	185	...	...	1.7	...
168	125	Beattie (J) 'A'	155	-1	...	4.9	15.6
150	94	Bentalls	138	-1	1.9	1.7	...
278	125	Betterware	137	...	...	2.0	16.4
47	22	Blacks Leis	41	...	2.2	6.9	...
261½	133	Body Shop	223	-2	...	1.0	28.8
16½	2½	Brown & Jackson	3½	+½	...	...	...
491	318	Brown (N)	448	+4	...	2.0	26.3
87½	51	Burton	54½	-½	...	4.6	...
245	126	Cantors	197 †	...	...	2.5	27.4
520	295	Church	440	+12	13.0	3.8	∞
183	97	Clinton Cards	170	-1	4.3	3.2	20.5
287	212	Coats Viyella	260	-20	...	3.9	19.5
120	78	Colourvision▲	82	-3	5.6	8.5	14.7
181	154	C'ty Casuals	167	...	...	3.1	15.5
935	374	Courts Furnish	875 †	+1	5.6	0.8	11.8
210	115	Crown Eyes▲	200	...	7.5	4.7	13.7
137	89	Dairy Farm Ind	109½	-3½	...	3.3	16.1
109½	51½	Dewhirst (IJ)	107	...	0.8	0.9	34.4
283	189	Dixons Grp	212	-1	...	3.7	...
21	8	ERA Gp	10	...	...	...	...
580	400	Elys (Wimbldn)	580	...	16.0	3.5	19.9
284	71	Essex Furn	268 †	...	...	1.8	42.9
273	203	Etam	232	...	7.0	3.8	21.3
608	499	Fine Art Dev	517	+1	13.0	3.2	16.8
70	26	Fired Earth Tiles	50	...	...	...	...
713	498	Forminster	708	...	14.5	2.6	12.9
180	24	French Conn▲	132	...	...	...	...
74	43	Geol SR	70	...	...	4.1	21.5
100	23	Goldsmiths Gp	99	...	0.3	0.4	...
650	334	GUS	575 †	+2	...	2.5	17.8
40	21	Hampden Grp▲	25	...	...	5.0	...
277	30	Harstone	69	-3	...	...	...
33½	20	Helene Plc	28	...	2.0	9.0	13.2
110	29	Heritage▲	90	...	...	...	...
91	35	Honeysuckle▲	82 †	...	...	3.8	12.0
211	63	Jacques Vert	191 †	+2	...	2.3	14.6
783	496	Kingfisher	607	-12	...	2.9	20.9
88	62½	Leslie Wise Gp	77 †	-1	4.0	6.5	∞
685	495	Liberty	540	...	7.2	1.7	61.6
380	241	Lloyds Chem	346 †	+2	...	2.9	11.5
184	120	MFI	171	+1	...	2.8	77.7
461½	311	Marks Spencer	424	-1	...	2.5	21.7
680	445	Menzies (John)	653 †	...	...	2.1	17.0
288	136	Moss Bros	284	...	5.5	2.4	33.4
251	139½	Next	221½	-1½	3.5	2.0	26.4
46	15	Oliver (G)	44	...	...	...	...
335	197	Oriflame Intl	278	...	...	4.4	13.6
63	24	Pentos	38	...	0.8	2.6	7.9
313	185	QS Hldgs	264	...	5.1	2.5	18.8
69½	20½	Rhino Grp▲	40	-1	0.5	1.6	∞
208	120	Rosebys	208	...	...	2.9	25.0
181	135	Sherwood Gp	170	-1	...	1.9	15.3
132	93	Sears	119	...	...	3.7	47.9
41½	11	Signet Group	38	-½	...	...	...
545	400	Smith WH 'A'	518 †	-4	...	3.6	16.7
127	83	-do- B	120½	...	...	3.1	19.4
21	4½	Specialeyes▲	11	-1	...	...	...
252	176	Storehouse	226	-1	...	2.8	22.3
198	145	T & S Stores	185	...	6.0	4.1	13.8
173	71	Tie Rack	146	...	1.0	0.9	23.9
265	160	Time Products	251	+1	7.7	3.9	21.7
132	63	Usher (Frankl)▲	134 †	...	6.0	6.0	13.5
465	302	Vendome	418	+1	...	1.8	19.5
45	27	Vivat	39	+2	1.2	4.1	∞
87	42	WEW Group	53	...	...	3.2	39.1
49	34	Wensum▲	42	...	1.8	5.6	...
129	76	Wickes	118	+1	...	1.1	28.1
89	45	Wld of Leather▲	89	...	...	...	...
195	142	Wyevale	177 †	...	4.4	3.1	∞
4	2	Xtra-vision▲	2½	...	...	...	...

ELECTRICALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
187	134	ACT Group	180	-4	...	3.5	18.1
283	223	Acal▲	283	...	...	3.1	20.4
540	385	Admiral	540	...	6.3	1.5	∞
190	104	Alba	189 †	...	...	3.2	21.5
50	19½	Alphameric	39	...	...	...	...
55	22	Amstrad	30½	-½	...	1.7	...
128	61	App Holo▲	93	+1	...	...	...
43	9½	Arden▲	33	...	...	...	...
94½	35½	Astec	87½	...	...	0.4	...
271	230	Atlan	264	...	...	1.4	31.4
298	224	Bestes Hunter	275	...	...	4.3	17.0
9	2	Bennett & Fountn	2½	...	...	...	...
478	319	BICC	440	...	...	3.6	30.6
558	408	Blick	515 †	...	...	2.5	19.0
1700	900	Borland▲	997½	+25	...	...	...
384	270	Bowthorpe	349	+1	...	2.5	23.2
499½	376	BT	415	-4	...	4.8	20.1
372½	293½	BT P/P	296	-5	...	4.8	19.6
22	5½	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	17½	+½	0.1	0.7	...
160	48	Burnfield	75 †	...	...	4.2	58.3
545	334½	Cable Wireless	454	-2	...	2.1	23.7
39½	11½	Chloride	34½	-½	...	...	...
276	229	CML Micro▲	273	...	4.7	2.2	19.8
180	74	Comptr People	180	+1	1.5	1.1	∞
202	108½	Cray Elec	179½	-3	...	1.2	17.5
447	243	Critchley	442	...	...	1.4	25.5
560	414	Delta	509	-13	...	3.6	∞
580	205	Denmans Ele▲	575	...	...	1.4	18.5
620	395	Domino	491 †	-2	...	2.0	21.1
77	48	Dowding Mills	73	+1	...	4.3	31.3
1635	865	Druck▲	1623	-10	10.3	0.8	32.6
589	358	Electrocomps	528	...	...	2.0	29.7
236½	156½	El Data Pro	193 ↓	...	...	1.2	16.5
175	43	Electron House	153 †	...	...	2.2	21.9
35	10½	Emess	32½	+½	0.1	0.4	∞
810	442	Eurotherm	808 †	...	...	1.5	27.5
211	108	FKI	207	-2	...	2.0	30.3
656	340	Farnell Elect	595	+1	...	1.4	31.5
91	33	Feedback▲	64	...	...	3.9	8.7
336	101	First Tech	309	-1	...	0.8	25.7
270	81	Forward Gp▲	258	...	4.0	1.9	18.2
28	13½	Forward Tech	28	+3½	0.2	1.1	∞
357½	264	GEC	313½	-6	10.4	4.2	15.7
199	132	Gaseby	176	-5	...	4.8	∞
14½	7½	Graystone	13½	...	...	...	...
52	35	Hilldene▲	44	...	0.5	1.5	...
193	118	Ind Control	160	...	...	3.5	14.7
388	330	Jones Stroud	358 †	...	...	3.4	14.8
136	26	Kalamazoo	136	+1	2.7	2.5	31.6
19	8	Kembrey	10½	...	0.1	1.8	...
396	260	Kenwood App	373	...	...	2.6	20.9
298	47	Kewill Sys	260	...	...	...	...
209	100	Kode	137	...	6.0	5.5	∞
60	16	Laser-Scan▲	25	...	...	...	...
365	122	LB&S▲	140	...	0.7	0.7	19.7
300	205	Lec Refrig	275	...	9.0	4.1	...
179	127	Life Sciences	128 †	...	3.9	3.8	∞
314	164	Logica	309	-1	...	1.7	35.5
55	41	LPA Ind▲	47	...	...	6.5	...
239	163	MR Data Mngmt	212 †	+1	...	3.3	23.6
723	353	Macro 4	668 †	...	...	3.7	20.0
281	175½	Memviter-Swa	224 †	...	...	2.2	19.5
3013	903	Micro Focus	965	+5	...	...	9.3
227	144	Microgen	150 †	...	...	6.0	15.4
38½	23½	Microvitec▲	35½	...	...	...	...
559	357	Misys	529 †	-4	...	1.7	19.3
178	108	MMT Comp▲	175	-1	...	2.9	23.8
52	16	Molynx	23½	...	1.3	6.9	...
280	202	MTL Inst▲	280 †	+5	4.1	1.8	∞
185	103	Multitone Elect	141 †	...	3.5	3.1	25.6
148	58	Murray Ent	132	+1	...	1.9	...
3206½	2412½	NYNEX	2412½	...	...	...	...
188	120	Neoronics	120	-1	...	2.7	20.9
65	42	Newmark (L)	55	...	...	...	...
369	58	Norbain▲	369	...	...	0.5	28.4
75	20	Northamber	58	...	0.6	1.3	...
15½	5	Oceonics	8	...	...	...	...
358	195	Oxford Inst	350 †	-3	4.6	1.6	24.1
87	20	P & P	78	...	...	3.4	21.4
48	55	Peek	41	...	...	4.8	...
235	115	Pegasus▲	205	...	5.0	3.1	∞
£104½	9000	Philips Fn 4%	£104½	...	...	5.5	...
1940½	725	-do- Lmp nv	1921½	+3½	...	0.9	∞
435	211	Phonelink▲	435	+3	...	...	...
340	171½	Pifco	340 †	...	...	1.6	28.5
330	151½	-do- 'A' Voting	330 †	...	...	1.6	27.7
96	63	Plasmec▲	77	-1	3.0	4.9	6.5
121	76	Pressac	113	...	...	2.8	23.9
261	81	Psion▲	230	...	2.5	1.4	61.1
261	147	Racal Elec	222	-1	4.2	2.4	13.2
70	33	Radamec	47	-1	...	4.0	10.1
70	24	Radius▲	32	-1	0.4	1.8	∞
118	61	Real Time▲	115	...	...	3.3	23.6
629	367	Sage Gp	540	+1	...	2.3	16.6
350	222	Sanderson Elec	335	-3	9.9	3.7	14.3
89	49	Scantronic	86	...	3.1	4.6	23.5
211	117	Scholes Grp	211	+1	...	3.0	21.7
403	270	Sema Gp	395	-7	3.1	1.0	∞
275	235	Servomex	270	...	5.9	2.7	20.4
49	28	Silvermines	44	...	...	2.8	...
94	37	Soundtracks▲	85 †	...	...	3.5	21.3
2962½	1737½	TDK	2815½	+21½	...	1.1	32.0
27	4½	TDS Circuits▲	13	-½	...	...	...
198	80	Telemetrix	142 †	-1	1.0	0.9	∞
292	178	Telspec	283	+3	...	1.1	35.6
1154	809	THORN EMI	1132	-12	...	3.5	26.2
186	96	Thorpe FW	186	...	...	1.8	21.7
103	23	Total Systems▲	35	...	1.5	5.4	6.2
303	186	Tunstall	295	...	...	1.5	21.1
324	164	Unitech	307 †	+2	...	2.5	52.2
16	6	Verity	13½	+½	...	...	...
35	22	Vistec▲	28½	...	0.3	1.6	16.8
637	367	Vodafone	557	-14	...	1.7	24.2
483	368	Volex	469	...	18.1	4.8	19.2
26	11	Western Selecm	25	...	0.2	1.2	...
305	223	Wholesale Ftgs	335 †	...	11.7	4.4	35.6

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
717	389	East Midlands	613 †	+4	...	4.2	10.9
725½	399	Eastern Elect	632 †	+1	...	4.0	12.0
480½	304	Hydro-Elect	375 †	-8	...	3.9	13.2
733½	404	London Elect	619	-1	...	4.3	11.7
850	458	Manweb	731	+1	...	3.7	9.1
767	424½	Midlands Elec	632 †	-2	...	4.2	10.0
510	273	National Powr	465	+2	...	3.0	11.5
801	440	Northern Elec	665 †	-1	...	4.2	8.7
301	100	Nthn Ireland	282 †	+3	...	3.1	13.5
806	439	Norweb	660	+1	20.8	3.9	9.5
582	273	PowerGen	555	+3	...	2.5	14.6
487	285	Scottish Power	399	-9	...	3.6	14.8
435	218	Seeboard	350	-3	...	3.7	11.0
825	469	Sth Wales	706	+2	...	4.1	10.8
743	426	Sth Western	642 †	-4	...	4.1	9.5
745½	406	Southern Elec	638 †	+1	...	4.1	8.4
729½	455	Yorkshire Elec	642 †	+2	...	4.2	12.1

FINANCE, LAND

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
60½	50	Aitken Hume	59½	...	1.0	2.3	11.8
165	47	BWD▲	135 †	-1	4.0	3.7	21.1
118	26	Baltic Plc	104	-1	...	1.8	∞
215	133	Bloorc Inv	208	...	...	...	...
757	413	Caledonia	667	+12	...	2.9	24.8
2450	1075	Camellia	2450	...	...	1.5	9.2
363	243	Candover	336	+2	11.0	4.2	∞

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
465	155	Govett	422 †	-1	...	4.5	8.6
250	125	Ivory Sime	221	+3	...	4.0	19.1
428	150	Johnson Fry	328	...	...	1.2	...
245	154	Lon Forfaiting▲	213 †	...	9.3	5.5	∞
87	47	Manakin	78	...	...	...	...
29½	3½	Nat Home Loan	18½	...	...	...	...
58	40	Newmarket	58	...	...	...	0.4
365	246	Rathbone Brs	324	...	6.5	2.5	19.7
28½	17	Rotland Tst	28	+½	...	3.6	16.6
400	253	S & U	350	...	10.2	3.6	13.0
114	48	Singer & Fried	100	...	...	3.8	12.6
1255	713	Sothebys	1255	+25	...	1.3	...
188	113	STP Capital	154	-1	3.0	2.4	63.5
234	183	Towry Law	221 †	...	...	2.6	21.7

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2556½	1487½	Amer Express	1987½	+43½	...	...	...
229	166	Gartmore	195	+1	...	2.6	∞
1208	835	Henderson Ad	1040	...	...	5.0	24.0
251½	92	Invesco	209	+2	...	1.8	...
317	164	Jardine Stra	258½	-10½	...	3.1	10.8
323	154	MAI	299	-2	...	2.9	16.2
770	389	MAM	648	...	16.0	3.1	16.2
1243	633	M & G	1040	-4	...	3.0	21.8
496	109	Smith New Ct	412	-1	...	2.1	4.0
81	45	Trio Hldgs	51	-2	2.5	6.1	∞

FOODS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
587	456	AB Food	557	-2	...	3.4	11.5
77½	46½	ASDA Group	60 †	-½	1.6	3.4	...
368	170	Acatos & Hutch	343 †	...	...	2.9	12.6
80	55	Albert Fisher	63	...	...	7.4	14.0
407	240	Argyll	252	-2	...	5.7	9.1
270	160	Banks (S C)	260 †	...	9.0	4.3	9.9
402	305	Barr (AG)	329 †	-1	6.5	2.5	∞
85	56	Bensons Crsps▲	70 †	...	2.8	5.1	∞
481	357	Booker	416	-3	...	...	...
59½	35	Borthwick	55½	...	...	0.5	36.1
505	430	Brake Bros	484	...	...	2.7	68.9
51	37	Budgen	39 †	...	6.3	1.6	20.1
545	407	Cadbury-Schw	499 †	+3	...	4.2	11.8
232	78	Carrs Milling	204	...	...	3.6	16.2
196	133	Cranswick	145	...	...	2.6	14.9
22	8½	Cullens	15	...	0.5	4.2	43.1
384	115	Dalepak	116 †	...	...	5.4	33.8
543	424	Dalgety	461	-5	...	5.7	13.2
87	27	Daniels S	87	...	...	0.4	...
284	191	Devro	259	...	...	2.7	24.6
134	60	Everest	60	-8	...	7.9	11.3
392	269	Farepak	392	...	5.9	1.9	24.1
10	3	Fardingford	8	...	...	...	...
94	64	Finlay (James)	84	...	...	6.2	27.9
125	78	Fyffes	100 †	...	...	1.8	17.1
483	256	Geest	265	-3	8.1	3.8	11.9
20½	7	Global▲	19	...	0.5	3.3	28.6
68	43	Grand Central	51	...	0.8	2.0	...
203	139	Hazlewood Fds	155	...	...	5.2	8.7
196½	131	Hillsdown	164	-1	...	7.0	12.1
250	146	Iceland Group	159	-1	...	2.8	10.0
131	92	JLI Group	110	...	...	5.3	12.2
853	542	Kwik Save	611	-1	...	3.7	11.0
282	144	Low (Wm)	157	...	...	6.2	5.5
113	41	Matthews (B)	104	...	2.3	2.8	68.1
19½	11	Merchant Retail	15½	...	0.9	7.7	31.7
174	84	Morrison (W)	116½	-½	...	0.9	15.1
246	177	Nichols (JN)	243	...	5.7	3.0	∞
291	207½	Nthn Foods	219	+1	...	4.9	10.7
20½	8	Nthmbrn Fds▲	12	...	...	...	...
232	172	Nurdin Peack	227	-1	...	3.4	12.6
360	205	Park Foods	357	+1	...	2.3	27.5
115	58	Perkins Food	74	...	...	7.8	∞
141	47	PizzaExpress	126 †	...	...	0.5	26.6
9	1½	Regina Hlth▲	3½	...	...	...	...
584	342	Sainsbury J	385	-1	...	3.3	13.5
86	33	Sentry Farms▲	81	...	1.5	2.3	14.5
225	90	Sims Food	106	...	...	7.7	20.4
467½	355½	Tate & Lyle	431	+1	...	3.8	11.5
273	176	Tesco	222	-1	...	4.1	10.1
211	123	Thorntons	192 †	...	...	...	...
229	101	Treats▲	227 †	...	...	2.2	18.5
434½	300	Unigate	348	...	...	5.9	11.4
437	324	Utd Biscuits	338	+5	...	5.7	20.9
24½	18½	Usborne	19	...	...	3.5	14.0
422	248	Watson & Phil	394	-6	...	4.5	16.5
59	30½	West Trust	42 †	...	...	8.0	...

HOTELS, CATERERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
26	12	Abrdn Stk H▲	26	...	...	...	...
94	77	City Centre Rest	88	-½	1.5	3.2	21.3
285	170	Forte	256	+1	...	3.7	20.1
215	148	Friendly Hotels	184	...	...	3.9	35.8
11½	5	Harmony Prop▲	9½	...	...	...	...
168½	87	Jurys Hotel	150½	...	...	4.2	12.2
222½	142	Ladbroke	207 †	...	...	3.6	57.4
109½	59	Mandarin Orntl	99½	+3	...	3.4	24.8
55	28	Resort Hotels	45 #	...	3.4	9.6	8.8
31	11½	Ryan Hotels E	23½	-½	...	5.3	...
1099½	700	Savoy Hotel 'A'	1080	...	7.0	0.8	...
92½	34½	Stakis	89 †	...	1.0	1.4	∞

INDUSTRIALS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
218	19	AAF Inds	58	...	...	19.0	3.5
616	455	AAH	487 †	-2	...	4.5	16.2
185	123	AIM	171 †	+3	...	5.5	20.9
138	88	APV	130	-1	...	5.2	...
238	81	ASW	193 †	+1	...	3.9	∞
202	118	Adwest	167½	...	...	4.8	17.9
29	10	Aerospace Eng	16½	...	...	5.7	...
312	249	Airsprung	280	-5	...	2.1	17.9
211	113	Alexdra W	210	...	4.1	2.4	33.2
13½	6½	Allied Radio	11	...	...	...	...
330	207½	Alumasc	330 †	...	...	2.3	18.4
72	17	Alvis	72 †	+1	...	1.7	13.0
745	345	Amber Ind	745	...	...	3.2	17.1
68	45	Amberley Gp▲	55	...	1.0	2.3	...
107	75	Anagen	76	...	...	...	...
145	65	Andrews Sykes	93	+3	...	4.0	...
1785	703	Antofagasta	1580	...	...	1.3	29.2
62	37	Armour	57½	+2	...	3.7	13.3
175	143	Ash & Lacy	175	...	6.4	4.6	17.9
6	2½	Ass Br Eng	5	...	...	1.3	65.4
625	434	Avon Rubber	604	+2	...	3.4	21.5
300	168	Assoc Nursg▲	280	...	...	0.4	17.8
687½	488	Atlas Equip	553	...	...	5.0	13.9
81	35	Ayrshire Metal	78	...	...	...	...
234	147	BBA	200 †	-2	...	4.7	...
122	28	BLP Group▲	84	...	...	...	...
77	13	BM Gp	41½	...	...	...	...
770	590	BOC	720	-6	...	4.0	28.3
86½	50	BSG	80	-½	...	5.0	27.8
578	353	BSS Group	542	...	...	4.0	30.3
409½	318	BTR	384 †	-5	...	4.0	20.2
221	147	BWI	175	...	...	4.8	16.2
50	25½	Babcock	38	...	...	3.6	22.7
11	4½	Bailey (CH)	8½	+½	...	...	...
289	228	Baird (Wm)	254	...	8.9	4.4	17.6
531½	393½	Barlow	443½	...	...	7.4	8.1
81	48	Baynes (Charles)	80	...	...	2.3	32.7
28½	14	Bearing Power	23	-½	...	4.1	14.6
300	23	Beauford	29	...	...	...	...
35	15	Bedford (W)▲	26	...	...	...	...
27½	14½	Benson Group	15 †	...	...	2.5	11.4
707	285	Bespak	310	-5	10.2	4.1	9.7
133	55	Bibby (J)	85	-1	...	2.9	...
312	129	Billam (J)	213	...	5.3	3.2	∞
41	21½	Bilsson Sutcl▲	31	...	...	...	...
11½	2	Bimec Ind	7½	...	...	...	...
282	118½	Birkby	280	+1	3.7	1.7	14.6
45	29	Black Arrow	43	...	2.1	6.1	13.5
283	136	Black (Peter)	266 †	-1	3.8	1.8	20.8
863	129	Bluebird Toys▲	833	-5	16.0	2.4	∞
329	230	Bodycote	321	...	...	2.0	20.5
40	23	Bogod 'A'	38	...	0.7	2.3	14.2
609	416	Boots	546	-4	...	3.1	21.6
61	39	Booth Inds	44	...	...	...	...
524	402	Bowater	500	-5	...	3.0	20.9
1681½	1187½	Bowater Inc	1559½	...	...	...	...
297	199	Boxmore Intl▲	289 ↓	...	4.0	1.7	∞
20	12½	Brasway	17	...	...	3.8	...
333	204	Brammer	324	...	13.0	5.0	24.1
31	12	Bridgend Gp	24	...	0.4	...	...
165	64	Bridon	156	...	...	3.2	...
88	53	Bridport-Gndry	78	...	...	4.0	...
57½	31	Brierley Inv	51½	+½	...	6.8	12.3
308	190	Br Bldg & Eng	295	...	...	4.3	19.8
124	42	Br Bloodstock▲	100	-2	...	...	...
528	415	Br Polythene	476	-5	11.5	3.1	∞
147½	54	Br Steel	142½	-1½	...	1.3	...
195	115	Br Thornton	126	...	...	5.0	13.1
298	215	Br Vita	288	...	...	3.3	26.6
18½	5½	Britton Grp	16½	-½	...	1.4	∞
931½	555	Broken Hill	837	-2½	...	2.2	37.9
125	78	Bromsgrve Ind	110 †	-1	...	5.0	14.3
18	6½	Brooke Tool	17½	...	...	...	...
73	36	Brown & Tawse	48	+1	...	...	...
186	91	Bullough	165 †	...	...	4.6	72.2
24	11½	Business Tech▲	13½	...	...	...	...
28	12	CI Group	20	...	0.5	3.6	19.2
54	11	Campbll & Arm	47	...	...	...	...
39	6½	Cannon St	32½	...	...	...	...
273	205	Cape	273	...	...	4.8	18.5
455	254	Caradon	402	-2	...	2.7	32.5
215½	129	-do- pf	193½	...	7.2	4.7	...
288	178	Carclo Eng	275	...	...	4.0	20.4
10	7	Care UK	8 †	-½	...	...	...
2887½	2025	Carnaud Ml	2294½	+15½	...	2.7	∞
104	68	Cassidy Bros▲	92 †	...	...	3.3	22.3
251	158	Castings	251	...	4.6	2.3	17.7
71	47	Cathay Intl	47	-5	...	...	...
250	213	Celltech	219	...	...	...	...
195	113	Chamberlin Hill	185	...	6.5	4.4	11.6
812	605	Charter	761	-3	...	3.6	11.7
360	220	Chemring	320	...	...	3.5	16.6
92	45	Chieftain Gp▲	58	...	3.5	7.8	∞
47	15½	Chillington	45	-1	1.0	2.8	...
246	144	Christies Int	228	...	...	1.1	∞
80	34	Claybithe	63	...	...	5.0	...
150	55	Clayton Son	127	...	...	...	...
455	295	Cohen (A)	453	...	3.4	0.9	...
297	179	Community H	285 †	...	...	3.2	16.2
263	185½	Concentric	242	...	...	3.0	20.1
310	120	Cook (Wm)	294	...	6.0	2.6	17.8
285	182	Cookson	283	-2	...	2.8	∞
110	38	Copymore▲	108 †	...	4.0	4.6	∞
239	130	Crnwll Pkr 'A'	161 †	-2	...	4.4	21.8
178	92	Cosalt	150	-1	...	4.8	...
285	150	Creighton Nt▲	275	...	7.4	3.4	19.7
48	27	CrestaCare	40	...	0.6	2.0	34.6
4075	2997½	Dana	3875	-12½	...	...	...
388	78½	Danka Br Sys	364	...	...	0.5	34.6
296	193	David Brown	290	...	...	2.6	20.6
994	632	De La Rue	980	+3	...	2.4	23.9
41	16	Dinkie Heel	41	...	1.1	3.4	32.6
628	391	Diploma	568	+5	...	2.6	22.8
97	50	Dobson Park	88	...	...	5.3	20.0
134	92	Dyson (J&J)	119 †	...	5.0	5.3	21.9
97	57	-do- 'A'	87 †	...	5.0	7.2	16.0
16½	8	EFG	15	...	...	...	...
442	358	EIS	438	...	...	3.4	17.3
28	15	Elbief	23	+2	...	...	...
53	19	Eleco	48	...	...	...	...
3534½	1750	Electrolux 'B'	3487½	-34½	...	1.5	∞
91	43	Elliott (B)	89	...	...	...	...
548	394	Eng China Cl	514	-8	...	5.0	30.8
146	111	Environmed	132 #	...	...	...	...
3962½	1550	Ericsson 'B'	3100	+56½	...	1.2	∞
86	32	Eurocopy	76 †	...	...	2.8	22.4
87	47	Expamet	78	...	...	4.1	∞
778	499	Fairey Group	767	...	11.8	1.9	∞
145	47	Fenner	140	-1	...	...	...
103	32	Ferraris Group	103	...	...	2.4	15.3
29	8	Ferrum	8	...	1.4	21.9	5.6
78	28	Fife Indmar	72 †	...	2.7	4.8	∞
251	102	Fisons	134	+3	...	4.0	...
60	29	Flexwilton	50 †	-2	...	8.8	...
288	215	Flogas	278 †	...	...	3.8	12.7
51	33	Folkes Group nv	49	...	1.5	3.8	27.8
126	56	French (Thomas)	123 †	...	...	3.7	28.3
264	162	Frost Group	235	...	...	2.4	30.4
88	70	GEI Intl	87	...	...	3.5	...
601½	420½	GKN	599 ↓	+2	...	4.6	36.4
69	42	GR Hldgs	64	...	...	3.5	...
134	79	Garton Eng	124	...	4.1	4.2	...
191	103	Gestetner	171 †	...	...	2.2	...
68	23	Gieves	61	...	...	...	44.1
801	509	Glaxo	676 †	-2	...	4.4	16.0
44½	16	Glenchewton	38	...	...	...	...
404	245	Glynwed	387	...	...	3.8	27.8
191	66	Goode Durrant	191	...	...	3.6	...
185	102	Grampian Hd	170	...	3.5	4.0	29.5
598	341	Granada	580 †	-1	...	2.0	22.1
487	301	Great Shrns	486	...	11.4	2.9	20.0
117	73	Green (Ernst)	83	...	...	10.5	12.6
19½	8½	Greenacre	14½	...	...	2.6	14.1
17	5	Guardian Grp▲	6 #	...	...	...	...
88	30½	Haden MacLn	80	...	...	3.1	28.9
102	44	Hadleigh Inds▲	97	...	1.0	1.3	...
80	31	Halkin Hldgs	70	...	...	...	54.6
320	115	Hall Eng	308	-2	9.5	3.9	∞
256	161	Halma	228	...	...	1.2	28.6
71	30	Hampson Ind	60	...	1.7	3.5	19.8
302	222	Hanson	279½	-1½	...	5.1	25.9
221	146	Harris (Philip)	150	...	...	5.7	9.1
220	147	Harrisn Crsfld	209	-2	9.0	5.4	30.2
171	38	Havelock Euro	147	...	...	...	...
51	20	Bay (Norman)	45	...	...	...	...
50	17	Headway	41	...	...	2.1	...
13½	1½	Healthcare	1½ #	...	...	...	0.9
511	301	Hepworth	473	+2	14.8	3.9	20.4
228	154	Hewitt (J)	183	...	3.2	2.2	14.3
73	15	High-Point	53	...	0.5	1.2	...
203	112½	Hill & Smith	192 †	...	...	4.0	20.1
28	6½	Hobson▲	27 #	...	...	...	...
191	87	Holders Tech▲	191	...	6.0	3.9	24.9
63	30	Hopkinsons	59	+1	0.9	1.9	44.6
216	133	Hornby▲	212	...	9.0	5.3	20.0
108	54½	Howden	100	...	...	2.9	15.8
280	246	Hozelock	247	...	...	3.0	17.6
265	173	Hunting	245	...	...	5.1	20.7
513	269½	Huntigh Tech▲	488	-2	...	1.0	32.3
379	247	IMI	354	+2	...	3.5	29.7
136	90	ISA Intl	136	...	1.6	1.5	∞
205	131	Intercare Gp▲	138 †	...	...	3.2	13.2
325	235	Isotron	323	...	4.4	1.7	18.0
710	360	Jardine Math	497½	-26½	...	2.5	18.0
610	425	Johnson Matth	568	+3	...	2.3	22.2
64	35½	Johnson & FB	44½	...	...	3.8	42.4
177	104	Johnston	152	-4	3.2	...	...
32	19	Jones Shipman	28	...	...	...	...
36	18	Jourdan (T)	30	...	0.7	3.1	...
187½	73	Kalon	176½	...	...	3.0	∞
297	195	Kelsey Ind	280	...	8.0	3.8	∞
805	465	Kershaw (A)	755 †	...	...	4.5	38.9
276	75	Kleeneze	215 †	-11	...	0.6	69.6
422	266	Laird	380	+1	...	3.5	18.7
170	103	Lilleshall	158 †	...	...	3.6	17.2
225	97	Lincat▲	225	...	...	3.3	15.9
51	4½	Lincoln Hse▲	40	...	...	...	20.3
140	76	Linread	140	...	3.9	3.6	∞
355	170	Linton Park	346	...	...	5.1	12.5
15½	9½	Lionheart	12½	+½	0.3	3.0	∞
22½	15	Locker (T) A	17½	...	0.8	6.1	25.5
274	97	Lon Intl	142	+1	6.2	5.5	...
175½	70	Lonrho	156½	-4½	...	3.2	77.2
431	269	Low & Bonar	415	...	...	3.1	∞
49	14½	ML Hldgs	43	+1	...	...	...
67	27	MS Intl	61	...	...	5.1	37.4
70	39	MY Holdings	58 †	...	...	2.7	15.3
271	168	Macfarlane	237	-3	...	1.8	26.8
539	379	McKechnie	530	+4	...	3.5	25.5
127	85	McLeod Russel	115	...	...	6.6	17.0
106	63	Magnolia	99	...	0.1	0.1	15.9
162	71	Mang Bronze	161	...	...	1.9	26.6
29½	19½	Marling	22	...	...	4.8	...
231	124	Mayborne▲	183	-20	5.2	3.6	14.0
64	29	Mayflower	57	-1	...	1.0	47.6
236	85	Medeva	161	+6	2.7	2.1	∞
120	88	Meggitt	117	...	...	4.1	19.9
132	98	Metair	131	...	...	3.6	21.4
154	112	Metrotect	119	...	...	3.4	16.5
119	70	Metsec▲	119	...	...	...	...
124	29	Midstates	109	...	...	0.9	15.2
575	368	Molins	548	...	...	3.3	13.2
408	262	Morgan Cble	392	...	...	4.0	20.6
217	134	Morris Ashby▲	217 †	+1	5.7	3.3	16.5
51	18	Neepsend	40	...	1.0	3.1	53.7
80	34	Nestor-BNA	75	...	3.1	5.2	17.9
249	122	Nobo Gp	247	...	5.3	2.7	24.4
212½	123½	Norcros	197	+1	...	4.4	28.8
51	32	Novo Group	32	...	...	4.3	10.3
81	36	Office Elec Mac	52	...	...	...	...
64	21	OMI Intl	56½	...	...	3.9	...
175	123	PCT▲	174	...	7.2	5.2	19.8
91	36	Pacer Systems▲	75	...	...	5.9	∞
43	31	Pascoe's	36	...	...	...	...
138	87½	Pendand	97	...	...	4.1	∞
395	272	Photo-Me	280 †	...	4.7	2.1	16.8
204	47½	Pilkington	195	-½	...	1.6	...
110	68	Plantsbrook	101	...	3.4	4.3	∞
185	125	Polypipe	167½	...	...	1.6	21.5
42	15	Porter Chadbn	24	...	...	2.1	11.0
376	270	Powerscreen	275	...	...	3.1	14.3
27½	16½	Prospect Inds	21½	-½	...	4.6	12.6
77	33½	RPS Group▲	74	...	2.3	3.9	16.4
108	73	Radiant Metal	100	...	...	...	...
186	77	Ramco Oil▲	155	+1	1.0	0.8	51.9
447½	254½	Rank Org	420	-5	...	3.7	22.8
33	13	Ransomes	15	-4	...	...	...
725	532	Reckitt Colm	638	-13	...	3.3	14.7
95	50	Record	94	...	3.6	4.9	∞
7½	2½	Reece	3½	...	...	...	...
291	131	Relyon	259 †	...	5.2	2.5	∞
308	208	Renishaw	283 †	...	...	2.9	36.6
149	55	Renold	147½	+1½	...	1.4	...
2159	1240	Reuters	2008 †	-36	...	1.6	27.9
88	24½	Rexmore	87	...	2.0	2.9	...
201	91	Ricardo Group	178	+1	...	4.0	25.2
76	58	Richard (Leics)	70	...	3.7	6.7	...
108	63	Richardson West	105	...	3.0	3.6	26.8
155	109	Ropner	155	...	8.2	6.7	22.0
152	97	-do- 'A'	152	...	8.2	6.8	21.5
38	14	Ross Gp	18	-1	0.6	4.5	7.4
195	131½	Rotork	187	...	...	2.5	21.9
190	89	Rubicon	160 †	...	...	3.4	20.2
75	43	Russell (A)	71	...	...	0.9	...
38	15	SEP Indl	37 †	...	0.8	2.7	∞
1337½	625	SKF 'B'	1200	+50	...	...	...
272	205	Scapa	239	...	...	3.0	17.8
238	179	Scholl	189	...	...	4.2	13.8
323	242	Scotia	277	+6	...	...	...
1291	917	Securicor	1215 †	-10	...	0.3	35.9
1036	582	-do- 'A'	880 †	-19	...	0.4	26.3
892	465	Security Serv	767 †	-10	...	0.9	29.2
154½	77	Senior Eng	142½	+1	...	2.8	23.8
361	278	Seton Health	330	...	...	2.3	18.9
166	88	Shiloh	151	...	3.0	2.5	16.3
349	271	Sidlaw	343	+6	...	3.8	17.0
630	427	Siebe	598 †	-11	...	2.2	21.1
383	220	Silentnight	343	...	...	2.9	18.6
181	102	Sime Darby	153	...	...	3.2	16.5
142	32	Simon Eng	136½	-1½	...	...	...
259	180	Sinclair (Wm)	222 †	...	...	3.9	18.0
47	35	Six Hundred	43	...	...	4.4	...
164	134	Smith & Neph	144	...	...	4.4	14.3
513	373	Smithkline	398 †	-1	...	3.4	16.1
450	343	Smithklne Uts	365 †	-1	...	3.7	14.7
527½	320	Smiths Ind	495	+1	...	3.0	19.8
140	58	Stim Bus	94	-1	...	4.9	4.9
585	265	Spandex▲	585	+35	...	1.5	∞
660	300	Spear (JW)	630	...	19.0	3.9	∞
411	314	Spirax-Sarco	410	...	...	2.6	25.2
137½	41½	Spring Ram	70	+1½	...	0.9	∞
270	201	Staveley	234	...	...	4.5	13.2
242	126	Sterling Ind	237	...	...	3.1	36.3
220	97	Suter	194 †	-1	...	5.9	17.2
611	244	Swire Pacfc 'A'	471½	-12½	...	2.1	∞
7	1	Sycamore	4	...	...	...	...
78	50	Sykes-Pick	51	...	3.0	7.5	9.5
178	120	Syltone	173	...	...	3.5	25.0
495	279	TI	388 †	-4	...	3.6	22.3
44	12	TLS Range▲	34	...	0.2	0.9	...
376	211	TT Group	376	+2	...	2.2	23.1
292	201	Takare	248	-1	2.0	1.0	21.5
868	618	Takeda Chem	852½	+12½	...	0.7	16.2
68	24	Tex Hldgs	46	...	...	...	...
109	70	Tinsley (E)▲	97	...	...	...	...
240	150	Titon▲	220	...	...	1.2	16.7
283	212½	Tomkins	254 †	-1	...	2.4	18.3
124	59	Trafalgar H	108 †	-1	...	3.3	18.7
116	61	Transfer Tech	92	...	...	3.8	...
190	120	Triplex Lloyd	162	...	3.2	4.3	11.6
318	214	UniChem	303	-1	6.4	2.6	19.8
440	275½	Unidare	430	...	...	2.4	23.4
76	11½	Unigroup	48	...	...	...	...
1249	938	Unilever	1095	-10	25.0	3.0	∞
8118½	6362½	Unilever (NV)	7350	-40½	...	2.8	12.2
24½	9	Utd Inds	17½ #	...	...	...	...
1093	513	VSEL	1026	-14	...	3.7	11.1
31½	6½	Vernon	22½	...	...	...	...
196	95½	Vickers	180	...	...	2.1	22.3
367	243	Victualic	312	-2	...	3.3	∞
522	283	Vinten	514	...	...	1.8	23.9
805	427	Vosper Thorny	798	...	...	2.6	18.5
48	33	WSP Hldgs	45	...	...	5.1	∞
525	368	Wagon Ind	519	...	...	4.2	22.9
8½	1½	Wakebourne	3½	...	...	...	19.1
114	71	Walker Greenbk	106	...	3.1	3.7	27.0
304	201	Wassall	295	...	3.4	1.5	∞
51	22	Wtrford Wdgwd	48	...	...	...	...
384	252	Weir	326	-2	...	2.3	18.4
993	604	Wellcome	629	-14	...	3.4	13.3
30	16	Wellman	28½	+½	0.9	3.9	46.5
400	260	West Hlthcare	355 †	-4	...	1.3	22.8
548	455	Whatman	542	...	9.7	2.2	18.4
353	211	Whessoe	257	...	...	4.0	12.1
111	27	Whitecroft	108	+1	...	...	...
13½	4½	Widney	12½	...	...	...	...
191	44	Wilkes (James)	162	-1	3.5	...	47.4
421	298½	Williams Hldg	394	-13	...	4.1	20.2
53	17	Wilshaw	49½	...	...	1.4	31.2
975	533	Wolseley	947	-28	...	1.9	22.9
155	125	Wood (Arthur)	155	...	1.5	1.2	56.5
46	15	Wyko	45	...	...	1.4	...
96	38	Young (H)	80	...	...	5.2	...

INSURANCE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
1903½	1193½	Alex & Alex	1262½	-18½	...	5.3	...
2406½	1725	Am Gen	1850	+37½	...	4.2	...
86	30	Archer	57	...	...	2.2	...
165	118	Bradstock	135 †	...	...	5.1	15.2
550	359½	Britannic	433	...	...	3.4	...
117	96	CLM Insce	104	...	...	...	...
711	556	Com Union	582 †	-6	...	5.3	19.3
1950	1225	Dom & Gen	1950	...	...	1.6	25.7
64	18	FAI	53	+1	...	0.9	...
194	166	Fenchurch Grp	175	...	...	5.1	15.6
757	546	Gen Accident	612	-6	...	5.8	13.2
247	160	GRE	197 †	+4	...	4.8	2.7
457	293	Heath C E	384	-3	...	5.2	...
228	122	Hogg Gp	140	...	8.1	7.3	12.7
323	255	Independent Ins	295	+5	8.2	3.6	∞
235	162	JIB Group	194	-5	7.5	5.0	∞
547	408½	Legal & Gen	502	+9	...	4.8	30.5
1353½	769½	Liberty Life	1331½	...	...	2.4	21.2
121	99	LIMIT	104	...	...	...	...
471	389	Lloyds Abbey	411 †	-9	...	5.5	13.2
338	253	Lloyd Thomp	290	...	6.7	2.9	18.0
443	274	Londn & Man	390	-3	14.7	4.7	28.7
472	321	Lowndes Lmb	424	-1	14.0	4.0	15.6
6743½	5256½	Marsh McLn	5512½	+37½	...	3.3	...
188	139	Nelson Hurst	180	...	...	3.9	18.0
131	76	Ordel	124	...	...	5.0	...
83	50½	PWS	78 †	-2	...	6.4	14.5
385	282½	Prudential	324	+1	...	4.7	21.5
404	266½	Refuge	341 †	+1	11.3	4.2	∞
350	248	Royal	275 †	-3	...	3.4	12.5
212½	150	Sedgwick	209 †	-3½	...	3.6	23.1
261	100	Steel Burrill	117	...	...	12.8	6.9
89	48	Sturge Hldgs	75 †	...	...	5.0	63.7
418	307	Sun Alliance	328	...	14.2	5.4	...
91	50	Trade Indemnty	90	...	...	...	...
464	239	Transatlantic	423 ↓	-1	...	3.6	38.1
773	499	Utd Friendly	610	-3	15.1	3.1	26.6
245	171	Willis Corroon	220 †	-5	...	3.8	20.4
28	13½	Windsor	27	...	...	...	21.2



INVESTMENT TRUSTS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
2058	1548	Alliance	1930	+6	47.0	3.1	∞
161	124	BZW Conv	153	...	7.8	6.4	...
219	133½	Bankers	201½	-½	...	2.3	...
381	264	Baring Tribne	347 †	...	...	2.4	...
243	131	Berry Starq	242	+1	2.2	1.1	...
120½	96½	Br Assets	107 †	-½	...	5.0	...
98	57½	Br Empire Sec	94	...	...	1.2	...
46	14	-do- Wnts	37	...	...	...	...
234	156	Br Inv	213	+1	4.6	2.7	...
272	174	Brunner	251 †	...	...	2.6	...
221	130	Contl Asset	208 †	-1	...	1.8	...
195	143	Derby Inc	153	...	...	12.9	...
325	195	-do- Cap	300	+2	...	...	...
100	62	Drayton Blue	93	...	8.4	11.3	...
111	35	-do- Eng Intl	102	...	1.0	1.2	...
156	84	-do- Far East	141 †	...	...	0.6	...
177	95	-do- Korea	159	...	0.5	0.4	...
784	576	Dunedin Inc G	721 †	...	26.1	4.5	∞
108	76	-do- Japan	104	+½	...	...	...
80	34	-do- Warrants	72	...	...	...	...
827	513	-do- Wwde	788	...	...	1.5	...
341	222	Dundee & Lon	328	...	...	3.4	...
360	250½	Edinburgh	323	-1	8.5	3.3	...
354	183	Electra Inv	318	+1	...	2.8	...
220	141	Electric Gen	203	...	3.1	1.9	...
127	85	English Scot	119 ↓	...	...	...	...
345	205	European Asset	334 †	...	...	1.0	∞
172	77	Finsbury 'A'	158	...	3.0	2.4	...
343	248	Fleming Amer	320 †	...	...	0.6	...
145	91	Fleming Chinese	108½	-½	...	...	...
92	52	-do- Warrants	60	...	...	...	...
267	190½	-do- Claver	233	...	...	3.0	...
385	212	Do Contl	362	-2	2.7	0.9	...
264	147	-do- Entp	239 †	...	...	2.5	...
459	213	-do- F East	368	-2	...	1.1	0.4
422	246	-do- Fledg	395 †	...	3.0	0.9	∞
122	93	-do- Hi Inc	106 †	...	...	5.2	...
273	136	-do- Japan	268	+1	...	0.2	...
347	250	-do- Merc	334 †	-3	6.7	2.7	∞
347½	212	-do- Oseas	312 †	-4	4.2	1.7	...
311	200	Foreign & Col	289 †	-1	3.5	1.5	∞
148	56½	-do- Emg Mkts	117	...	0.2	0.3	...
77	44	-do- Enterprise	71½	-½	0.6	1.0	∞
259	164	-do- Eurotst	246	...	...	0.6	...
145	87	-do- German	130	-1	0.5	0.5	...
374	191	-do- Pacific	344	+1	...	0.8	...
192	116	-do- Smaller	184½	+½	1.8	1.3	...
303	145	GT Japan	291	+2	...	0.5	...
197	65	Genl Cons Cap	195	-1	...	...	...
123½	96½	-do- Inc	110 †	...	...	9.9	...
191	115	Govett Am Smlr	177	...	...	...	...
151	94	-do- Emg Mkts	122	...	...	...	...
110	96	Govett High Inc	97	...	...	7.0	...
420	184	-do- Oriental	376	-4	0.9	0.3	...
346	207	-do- Strategy	314	...	...	2.7	...
475	340	Greenfriar	470 †	...	...	1.8	...
19½	5	Gresham House	19	...	...	...	...
108	94	Herald	102	...	...	...	...
158	124	Inv Cap	139	...	...	4.6	...
119	77	IRS UK Smlr	111	+1	2.8	3.2	...
243	165½	Kleinwort Chrt	219 †	...	...	2.9	...
272½	176	-do- O'seas	249 Pd	-½	3.4	1.7	∞
165	108	-do- Smlr	162	...	3.5	2.7	∞
826	540	Law Debenture	751	...	18.5	3.1	...
227	164	Majedie	216	+1	...	2.9	...
324	221	Merchants	287½	-½	11.0	4.8	∞
495	464	Mercury Euro Pv	464	...	...	...	...
3343½	1850	Merrill Lynch	2912½	+37½	...	...	...
595	383	Monks Inv Tst	542	-1	...	1.5	...
159	105	Morg Gren Inc	146	...	...	3.9	...
64	23	Do Warrants	52	...	...	...	...
148	58	Murray Ent	132	+1	...	1.9	...
£290	£117½	-do- Pf 1904	£260	...	...	...	...
58	39	-do- Warrants	39	...	...	...	...
68	39	Murray Euro	63	...	0.2	0.6	∞
23½	4½	Do Wts	21	...	...	...	...
393	282	Murray Incme	356 †	-1	11.3	4.0	∞
395	265	-do- Intl	364 †	-3	11.6	4.0	∞
548	363	-do- Small	476	-5	...	1.1	...
103	52	-do- S/C Inc	84 †	+1	...	15.8	...
174	73	-do- S/C Cap	148	+1	...	...	...
3400	2750	-do- S/C Uts	3400 †	...	...	3.9	...
160	142	-do- S/C DP	153½	-½	...	...	...
363	230	-do- Vent	330	...	...	4.0	...
95	68	Nwtborg Inc	83	...	6.7	10.4	...
404	349	O'seas Inv Tst	374	...	...	1.1	...
647	285	Pacific Assets	503 †	-4	1.2	0.3	∞
545	187	Do Warrants	412	-2	...	...	...
9400	7850	Personal Assets	9250	...	190	2.6	...
189	100	RIT Cap Ptnr	178	...	1.1	0.8	...
127	108	River & Merc	115 †	...	...	10.0	∞
465	290	Robeco	449	...	...	2.8	...
465	346	Rolinco	448	...	...	1.7	...
343	214	St Andrew Inv	334 †	+1	7.8	3.0	∞
163	131	Scot American	169½	...	...	3.4	...
371	136	Scot Asian	295	-1	...	...	...
1090	225	do Warrants	835	-3	...	...	...
97½	67½	-do- Eastern	98	-½	1.5	2.3	∞
262½	183	Scottish	234½	-2	...	2.6	...
264½	178	-do- Mrge	232	-3	4.0	2.2	...
133½	71	-do- Value	125½	+1	...	1.8	...
1795	1390	Second Allnce	1660 †	...	...	3.0	...
106	74½	Secs Tst of Scot	96	-½	3.2	4.2	...
179	109½	Selective Asset	176 †	...	...	1.0	...
51½	14	Sphere Inv	49	-½	3.4	8.7	∞
305	112	TR Far East	169 †	-1	...	3.7	...
177½	126	TR City Of Lon	157½	-1½	...	3.8	...
240	110	TR Pacific	200 †	...	0.3	0.2	∞
47½	17	TR Property	40	...	0.0	2.8	...
152	47	TR Tech Inv	147	+½	1.7	1.5	...
228	146	TR Smlr Cos	214	...	...	2.2	...
412	283	Temple Bar	365 †	-2	...	4.6	...
135	69	Thmin Asian E	114	...	0.5	0.5	...
101	54	Throgmorton	85 †	...	...	3.4	...
553	363	Throg Dual Cp	500	-3	...	...	...
269	178	USDC Invest	255 †	...	4.5	2.2	...
129	76½	Value Inc Tst	117	...	4.0	4.3	...
257½	181	Witan	236½	-1½	...	3.1	...

LEISURE

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
581	269	Airtours	507	-2	...	2.2	17.3
64	41	Ald Leis	43	...	...	8.7	14.0
668	194	Anglia TV	663	+5	...	1.7	30.7
131	63	Baldwin	113 †	...	...	3.9	14.8
132	190	Barr & W 'A'	328	...	10.0	3.8	21.2
1400	930	Boosey Hwks	1300	...	22.0	2.1	19.5
205	90	Border TV▲	170	-4	3.6	2.6	13.9
16½	4	Brent Walker	5½	...	...	...	...
150	48	Bristol Scotts	123	...	...	...	...
9	2½	Buckingham Int	6	...	...	...	...
292	44	Campari	56	...	8.7	19.5	...
439	171	Capital Radio	393	+3	...	1.8	34.7
1047	520	Carlton Comm	963 †	-3	...	2.4	22.9
307	158	Castle Comms▲	302	...	...	3.8	19.7
3130	1615	Central TV	2925	...	39.0	1.7	31.9
163	61	Chrysalis	141 †	...	3.2	2.0	...
374	235	Compass Gp	363 ↓	...	...	2.2	20.2
350	175	Eurocamp	256 †	...	9.7	4.8	10.6
1180	268	Euro Disney	402½	+10½	...	2.0	...
8	1½	Euro Leisure	3½	-½	...	...	...
43½	18	Ex-Lands	36	-½	...	1.2	...
419	245	Fairline Boats	383 †	...	...	3.4	36.0
378	232	First Leisure	322 †	-2	...	2.6	21.8
478	68	Flextech▲	408	...	0.5	0.2	...
1033	298	GWR Gp▲	973 †	...	9.0	1.2	∞
303	149	Grampian	282	-3	6.5	2.9	19.5
22	4½	Greenwich Comm▲	16	...	...	...	...
161	19	HTV Group	145	-1	1.0	0.9	∞
96	30	Hi-Tec Sports	91	-1	...	3.1	...
18½	5½	Kunick	15½	...	...	...	14.6
752	405	LWT Hldgs	739	-1	...	0.8	34.2
700	327	Man Utd	698	...	...	3.5	28.2
51	7½	Northern	49	...	...	...	9.4
148	59	Owners Abrd	124 †	-2	1.5	3.5	∞
89	33	The Pelican Gp	82	...	1.1	1.7	19.2
183	55	Prism Leisure▲	175	...	3.5	2.5	16.2
43	16	Quadrant Grp	38	...	...	...	...
234	132	Ramsdens (H)	228 †	...	4.5	2.5	∞
628	274	Scott Radio▲	570	-15	...	2.1	25.4
574	430	Scot TV	528	-1	10.3	2.5	26.0
45	13½	SelecTV▲	34½	+½	...	...	...
117	37	Southern Radio	103	-2	...	1.5	45.6
350	164	Stanley Leisure	350 †	...	...	1.0	28.3
153	115	Sunset & Vine	152	...	3.5	2.9	23.2
420	345½	Tanjong	345½	...	...	0.5	18.7
2½	1	Tickering▲	1½	...	...	...	...
117	75	Tottenham Hot	81	...	...	3.1	31.0
182	44	Trans World▲	160 †	-2	1.3	1.0	58.3
760	224	Ulster TV	695	-19	12.0	2.2	21.3
148	62	Vardon	148 †	+1	1.1	1.0	∞
375	110	Yorkshire TV	336	-6	...	1.2	...
126	83	Zetters Gp	125	...	8.0	8.0	14.1

MINING

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
3675	1125	Ang Am	3284½	-50	...	2.1	27.8
2000	1018½	Ang Am Coal	2000	+6½	...	4.6	10.3
6518½	1800	Ang Am Gold	5950	-68½	...	3.8	26.7
34	8½	Anglo Pac Res	33½	...	...	...	...
405	115	Bakyrchik	325	-3	...	...	...
197	33	Blyvoors	136	-4½	...	...	...
46	18	Bracken	30½	...	...	29.3	5.3
896	233	Buffels	729 †	-8½	...	8.9	6.5
6	1	Butte	3½	...	...	...	...
930½	546	CRA	846½	+3½	...	2.5	27.1
55½	11	Cluff Res	52	-2½	...	...	...
1750	762½	De Beers	1662½	-18½	...	3.3	∞
165	37½	Deelkraal	104	-3½	...	1.9	7.6
96	7	Doornfontein	43½	...	...	...	...
914	388	Driefontein	770½	-8½	...	4.3	12.7
788	120	Durban	586½	-½	...	...	...
201	47	E Rand Gold	126	...	...	8.7	3.7
175	35	E Rand Prop	79½	...	...	...	...
604	117	Elandsrand	377 †	...	...	3.2	∞
1299	292	FS Cons	913½	-8½	...	7.1	11.7
80	8	FS Dev	44	+1	...	...	...
1800	725	GFSA	1443½	-12½	...	2.8	24.3
152½	63½	Gencor	140½	-6½	...	4.7	15.7
80½	35½	GM Kalgoorli	69½	-1	...	2.0	28.4
22½	5	Greenwich R 'A'	15½	-½	...	...	...
202	49	Grootvlei	127½	...	...	7.8	8.0
416	89	Harmony	378½	+3½	...	...	...
430	87	Hartes	335½	-6½	...	8.5	8.3
21½	8½	Inocco	15½	-½	...	...	12.8
1028½	490½	Impala Plat	1012½	...	...	2.8	33.2
16½	6	Kenmare Res▲	14½	...	...	...	...
1319½	331½	Kinross	987½	+15½	...	6.3	11.0
913	319	Kloof	678½	-½	...	3.6	8.1
137	25	Leslie	82½	...	...	13.7	4.4
359	13	Loraine	231½	+10	...	...	...
1125	618½	Lydenburg	1125	...	...	1.9	...
154½	80	MIM	153	-½	...	1.5	64.5
1512	820	Minorco	1487	-10	...	2.6	17.3
201½	91	Nth Brkn Hill	170½	...	...	2.9	26.2
4587½	612½	Orange Free	2353½	-9½	...	5.4	13.9
899	607	RTZ	853 †	-4	...	3.0	26.1
268½	106½	Rand Mines	268½	+81½	...	4.2	10.2
801½	150	Randfontein	632½	+4	...	0.5	6.3
175	115	Renison	240	...	...	1.9	24.8
1346½	850	Rustnburg	1290½	-25	...	2.8	28.5
756	191	St Helena	649½	-4½	...	6.5	13.6
2887½	475	Southvaal	2037½	...	...	4.6	22.1
119	18	Stilfontein	82½	...	...	25.0	15.4
201	58	Unisel	122½	...	...	3.6	11.7
7600	1800	Vaal Reefs	6508½	+31½	...	4.1	∞
813	154	Welkom	615½	-8½	...	5.5	15.7
640	26	Western Areas	596½	-3½	...	4.4	4.1
3362½	587½	Western Deep	2746½	-18½	...	4.0	∞
398	176	Wstrn Mining	349½	+1½	...	1.5	...
1225	321½	Winkels	969½	...	...	5.8	7.6
84	49	Zambia Copper	58	...	...	...	...
68	18	Zandpan	52	...	...	8.9	17.2

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
268	233	Abbey Panels	268	...	...	...	...
135	95	Airflow Stream	115	...	3.0	3.3	11.1
175	78	Appleyard	158	...	...	4.1	...
405	203	Bletchley Mtr	380	...	...	3.0	19.3
231	120	Bostrom	230	...	6.0	3.3	40.7
584	165	Br Aerospace	514 †	-5	...	2.0	45.2
58	19½	Burndene	45	...	...	4.9	12.1
465	303	Caffyns	410	...	11.5	3.5	21.7
22	4½	Caverdale	20½	-½	...	...	...
143	98	Central Mtr▲	116 †	...	...	4.3	28.7
43	18	Cook (DC)▲	37½	...	0.9	3.0	21.3
348	156	Cowie (T)	322 †	...	7.8	3.0	∞
205	86	Dag Motors	196	-1	5.7	3.7	35.3
157	102½	Davnpt Vern	152 †	...	...	3.5	15.1
332	155	ERF	331	...	2.0	0.8	...
173	92	European Mtr	150	...	...	3.1	21.1
552	208	Evans Halshw	552	+3	13.0	3.0	∞
308	211	FR Group	282	...	...	3.2	13.1
4718½	2843½	Ford Motor	4243½	-68½	...	...	...
4387½	2143½	General Mtr	4125	-81½	...	1.3	...
90	38	Gowrings	81	...	2.0	3.1	...
354	85	Healys	342 †	-2	7.5	2.8	∞
1146½	769	Honda Motor	1086½	-24½	...	0.8	...
48	15	Jacks (Wm)	41	...	...	...	...
116	66	Jessups	90	+1	4.5	6.2	...
184	97	Kwik-Fit	156½	-1	...	2.8	22.1
573	281	Lex Service	547	...	...	2.6	29.9
276	85	Lookers	267 †	-1	...	3.0	26.0
239	126	Lucas	209	-3	...	4.2	...
29½	21	Malaya Grp	27	-½	...	...	...
310	224½	Pendragon	307	...	...	2.6	25.2
238	101½	Perry Gp	234	...	...	3.8	...
218	108	Quicks Group	213	...	...	2.3	...
192½	98½	Rolls-Royce	190	+4	...	3.3	∞
249	164	T & N	239	...	...	5.7	∞
300	163	Trinity Hldgs	278	+3	...	2.5	26.0
221	125	Vardy (Reg)	211 †	...	...	2.5	24.8
338	121	Westland	326	...	...	1.7	22.9

NEWS, PUBLISHERS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
365	103	Adscene	333 †	...	5.7	2.2	33.1
360	315	Black (A&C)	335	...	13.5	5.0	13.7
608	280	Blenheim Gp	339	...	...	3.5	12.6
410	275	Bristol	410	...	...	3.7	37.0
1650	1100	Daily Mail	1493½	...	...	1.2	35.0
1484½	768½	Daily Mail 'A'	1245½	...	...	1.5	29.2
355	210	Dorling Kind	264	...	...	1.6	23.9
6712½	4337½	Elsevier	6421½	+37½	...	1.5	22.0
476	322	EMAP	434	+2	...	2.3	26.8
1600	873	Euromoney Pb	1600	...	...	3.0	28.1
284	154	Harrington K	178	...	4.9	3.5	∞
515	155½	Haynes Pub	450 †	...	...	2.0	25.4
393	334	Hodder H'line	393	...	5.1	1.6	33.4
180	99	Home Counts	165	...	5.2	4.0	...
195	30	Intl Bus Comm	192	...	...	...	27.9
15	6½	Intl Cm & Data▲	12	...	...	...	...
510	240	Independent	480 †	...	...	2.9	...
669	385	Johnstone Press	668	-1	6.5	1.2	28.9
381	243	Metal Bulletin	379 †	...	10.0	3.3	∞
203	88	Mirror Gp	193	-4	...	...	14.1
515	297	News Corp	459½	-2½	...	0.3	...
314	109	News Intl	280	...	...	0.6	17.2
735	342	Pearson	676	-14	...	2.2	36.7
760	510	Portsmth Sund	735	...	...	1.6	20.8
964	618	Reed Int	908	-2	...	2.4	39.4
249	98	Southnews	247	-1	2.5	1.2	42.7
200	97	Sterling Pub▲	200 †	...	...	1.9	24.4
609	328	Telegraph	591	...	...	2.8	19.0
885	715	Thomson Corp	855	...	30.1	4.4	42.7
472	313	Trinity Intl	459	-2	9.0	2.5	27.5
39	21	Unit Group▲	30	...	...	...	...
731	480½	Utd Nwspprs	698	-2	...	3.9	19.4

OILS, GAS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
37	17	Aran Energy	26½	-½	...	...	26.0
61	33	Arcon Intl▲	42	...	...	...	...
74½	41½	Aus Oil & Gas	72½	-2½	...	...	...
83	26	Aviva Pet	54	...	...	...	...
16	3½	Beverley	7½	...	...	...	74.6
253	145	Br Borneo	221	-3	7.1	4.0	6.7
361½	276	British Gas	310½	-3½	...	6.0	...
406½	225	Br Petroleum	360½	-½	...	2.9	30.1
3½	1	Bula Resources	2½	...	...	...	...
875	675	Burmah Castrl	834	-4	...	3.8	19.5
68	32	Cairn Energy	60	...	...	...	8.6
375	223	Calor Gp	324	...	...	4.6	17.7
60½	32½	Clyde Pet	57½	...	...	...	...
44	21½	Coplex Res	21½	-½	...	...	...
27½	10½	Edin Oil & Gas	25½	...	...	...	25.4
521	397	Enterprise	411	-4	...	4.9	21.2
88	25	Exp Co Louis	66	...	...	...	...
34½	18½	Fairhaven Intl	25½	-½	...	4.2	9.1
10	4	Fortune	5½	...	...	...	...
67	45	Goal Pet	63	-1	1.4	2.8	12.1
48	18	Gt Western Res	38	...	...	...	...
181	104½	Hardy O & G	155	...	...	0.8	14.4
55	18½	Kelt Energy	50	...	...	...	...
195	97	LASMO	130	-1	...	3.1	26.2
103	63	-do- Units	65	...	0.4	19.2	...
21	2	Mid Scot Res▲	4½	...	...	...	...
66½	34	Monument	62½	...	...	...	...
9½	4	New London	5½	...	...	...	...
33	21	Nth Sea Assets	29	...	1.0	4.1	10.0
50	25	Oil Search	43	-1	...	...	...
59½	11½	Petroz	40½	-3½	...	...	...
163	90	Pict Pet	163	+1	...	...	...
29½	18	Premier	25½	-½	...	...	...
169	50	Presidio	115	...	...	5.6	...
410	250	Ranger	340	-5	...	4.5	...
7700	5150	Royal Dtch Fl	6987½	-31½	...	4.4	∞
4500	3600	Schlumberger	3734½	+3½	...	2.1	...
67	47	Seafield	57	...	...	...	...
749	515	Shell	673 †	-4	...	4.4	∞
203	135	Sunrise Eng Sv	135	...	...	...	...
41	15	Triton Europe	33	...	...	...	...
19	6	Ylliers Grp	16½	...	...	...	...
229½	125	Woodside	191	-4	...	1.9	...

PAPER, PRINT, ADVTG

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
184	120	AG Holdings	188	-4	...	3.0	17.2
444	249	API	399	-17	...	2.6	28.0
300	144	Arjo Wiggins	287	-4	...	2.8	40.4
730	408	Abbott Mead	708	...	10.5	1.9	∞
40	13	Aegis Gp	34½	...	...	...	...
212	119	Aspen Comms▲	196	...	4.9	3.2	17.6
36	7	BBB Design▲	34	...	...	...	...
472	227	Bemrose	440	+1	...	3.2	21.1
30½	7	Birkdale	11½	...	...	...	...
184	116	Bunzl	183	-1	4.0	2.7	20.0
430	257	CIA Gp	390	...	4.4	1.4	24.0
230	93	Capital Inds	170	...	...	2.6	16.2
93	44	City of Lon▲	89	...	...	6.0	14.4
439	169	Cropper (James)	432	...	3.2	0.9	41.7
114	51	Delyn Group	112	...	1.6	1.9	15.1
137	94	Dolphin Pack	136	...	4.5	4.5	31.1
87	42	Dudley Jenkins▲	80 †	...	...	4.9	17.5
16½	10½	Elswick	14	...	...	2.2	15.7
93	41	Fairway Group▲	89 †	...	...	4.2	18.1
430	271	Ferguson Intl	417	...	...	3.7	19.9
145	92	Ferry Pick	145 †	...	...	4.5	∞
227	74	Filofax▲	214 †	-1	...	0.9	27.6
20	8	Finch	13	...	...	...	...
154	69	Gibbon Lyons▲	146	...	5.2	4.5	16.5
295	205	Gold Greenless	239 †	...	8.4	4.4	21.6
41	17	Goodhead	31	...	...	0.2	∞
88	15	Hunterprint	20	+1	...	...	...
185	132	Interurope	132 †	-1	...	7.4	11.9
290	191	Jarvis Porter	295	...	...	2.1	26.6
33½	15½	Lopex	31	...	...	...	...
38½	26	MMI	35	...	...	...	...
431	175	Mnre O'Ferrall	423	...	11.2	3.9	30.6
146	48	NMC Group	121	...	2.7	2.8	15.7
300	66	Osborne & Lttle	295	...	...	2.2	12.4
60	6½	Osprey Comms	49	...	...	0.2	...
632	455	Portals	628	-1	...	2.2	17.0
3½	0½	Premier Hlth	2½	...	...	...	...
339	159	Quarto	332	-2	...	2.2	30.4
405	270	St Ives Gp	390	+1	...	1.8	25.7
186	133	Saatchi	140	-1	...	...	77.6
600	292	Sappi	595	-½	...	5.5	11.3
39½	8½	Serif	29	...	...	...	...
56½	14	Shandwick	56	-½	...	...	...
517	294	Smith David	514	...	...	2.4	25.1
361	206	Smurfit (Jeff)	325	...	...	1.6	[illegible]
119	45	Sonic	112	...	2.5	2.9	45.9
254	183	Stat-Plus	249	...	9.8	4.5	∞
31	16½	Taylor Nelson	31½	-½	0.3	1.3	20.4
151	38	VTR▲	141	...	...	3.3	21.2
129	40	WPP	121	-1	...	1.0	17.4
264	62	Wace	242	+3	...	0.5	...
300	203	Waddington (J)	253	...	...	4.0	19.0
511	270	Watmough	508	-3	6.6	1.6	∞
7	3	Westport▲	4	-½	...	...	...
44	12	Whitney Mck▲	15	...	...	...	...
103	55	Wyndeham	102 †	...	...	1.8	21.4

PROPERTY

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
130	41	Allied Lon	114	...	...	1.9	21.5
48	35	Arcadian	43	...	...	...	...
16½	4½	Ascot Hldgs	8	...	...	...	...
144	52	Asda	118	...	...	2.1	12.4
191	88	Avonside	174	+4	4.1	2.9	24.3
2637½	2062½	BCE▲	2540½	+3½	...	...	...
785	396	Bilton	713	-1	19.9	3.3	25.8
107	17	Bourne End	102	...	...	1.2	...
276	150	Bradford	239	...	5.9	3.1	24.2
23	5	Bredero	17	-1	...	...	...
474	166½	Br Land	410	-3	...	2.2	37.4
276	140½	Brixton	219	+1	...	4.8	17.3
118	39½	Burford	100 ↓	-2½	...	1.8	32.2
207½	94½	Cap & Regnl▲	190 †	...	...	1.0	∞
315	120	Cardiff Prop	315 †	...	...	1.0	70.5
185	171	Chelsfield	171	...	...	1.8	...
678	196	Chesterfield	650	...	11.5	2.2	46.5
84	12	City Site Ests	77	...	...	...	...
35	12	Clarke Nickolls	26	...	...	...	...
548	285	Compco	285	...	12.9	6.0	61.8
56	29½	Conrad Rhlat GS	46 †	...	...	...	...
1755	818	Daejan	1625	...	...	2.1	20.1
65	5	Dares Estates	17½	...	...	...	...
156	53	Debenham Twsn	142	-5	...	2.9	27.0
17	4	De Morgan	15	...	...	...	...
189	76	Dencora	182	...	3.0	2.1	...
723	263	Derwent Hldgs	695	-8	8.7	1.6	...
45	10	Development Sec	38½	...	...	...	...
65	24	Dwyer	56	+1	...	...	...
460	170	Estates Agency	460	...	...	2.1	54.7
47	7½	Estates Gen	35	+2½	...	...	...
132	66	Evans Of Leeds	122	-1	...	2.4	21.6
37	11	Five Oaks	34½	...	...	...	...
78	30	Fletcher King	77	...	1.0	1.6	51.0
536	276½	Frogmore	481	-4	...	4.2	23.2
325	97	Grainger	316	...	...	2.1	56.5
260	116½	Gr Portland	229	-1	...	4.4	21.9
23½	3½	Greycoat	19	-½	...	...	...
269	101	HK Land	214½	-8½	...	3.0	28.2
94	35	Hambro Cntyw	73	...	0.7	1.3	∞
435	233	Hammerson	384	-8	10.0	3.3	38.9
378	127	Helical Bar	353	-2	...	1.7	12.7
40½	19	Hemingway	36½	...	...	...	...
132	56	Herring Baker	71	...	3.7	6.6	17.8
315	133	Jermyn	245	...	...	...	...
802	435	Land Sec	705	-1	23.1	4.1	21.0
122	73	Lon Merch Sec	106	...	4.0	4.7	16.5
22½	8½	Lon & Metro	14	...	...	...	...
565	315½	MEPC	493	-2	...	5.1	28.4
13½	5	McInerney A	12½	...	...	...	...
190	90	McKay Secs	175 †	...	3.5	2.5	24.0
8½	2½	Markheath	6 #	...	...	...	...
81	12	Merivale Mre	76	+1	...	...	...
55	29	Moorfield Est	43	...	...	...	...
1425	775	Mountview	1331½	...	22.0	2.1	13.9
196	112	Mucklow (A&J)	176	...	...	4.5	25.1
70	30	Olives Prop	54	-4	...	...	...
10½	1½	ORB	1½	...	...	...	...
191	88	PSIT	169 †	-3	4.3	3.2	33.5
399	138	Peel	343 †	-9	4.3	1.6	...
16	4½	Power Corp	7½	...	...	...	...
50	22	Property Trust	40	...	...	...	11.4
63	33	Raglan	48	-1	...	...	...
40	11	Regalian	34	...	...	...	...
170	110	Rowlinson Secs	170	...	1.5	1.1	21.2
64	16	St Modwen Prp	53 †	...	...	2.4	22.2
78	39	Saville Grdn (J)	70 †	...	...	4.8	34.9
100	30	Savills	88	...	...	2.5	34.8
112	37½	Scot Mes	92	...	...	2.0	...
135	39	Shaftesbury	133	...	...	...	...
16	5	Shield	15½	...	...	...	8.1
290	139½	Slough Estates	265	-4	...	3.8	18.5
103	56	Southend Prop	91	...	...	3.3	...
50	16	Stanhope Prps▲	41½	...	...	...	...
244	114	Tops Ests	240 †	...	2.1	1.1	...
163	79	Town Centre	152	...	...	2.8	27.2
107	43	Trafford Park	96	-1	...	3.6	22.1
58	17	UK Land	40	-1	...	...	...
12	4	Union Square	9	...	...	...	...
317	180	Warner	260 †	-2	...	5.3	23.1
249	168	Warnford	248 †	...	7.5	3.8	18.2
8	2	Waterglade	3½	+½	...	...	...
104	34	Wates	90	...	...	...	...
105	40	Wood John D▲	101	...	...	0.9	...

SHOES, LEATHER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
45	11	Automagic▲	45	...	...	...	...
228	84	Headlam	226	+1	...	1.7	51.0
500	285	Lambert	385	...	13.7	4.6	∞
100	44	Pittards	63	...	1.5	3.0	18.0
30	20	Strong & Fisher	25	...	1.0	5.2	∞
250	89	Stylo	241	...	...	1.6	...
67	53	UK Safety	66	...	...	4.9	2.2

TEXTILES

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
617	408	Allied Text	575 ↓	...	...	2.6	14.9
71	54	Beckman (A)	65	...	...	6.9	13.9
47	21	Bolton Gp	40	...	...	...	...
226	141	Br Mohair	206	-7	8.5	5.3	∞
68	15	Charnwell▲	58	...	...	...	...
380	298	Claremont Ga	380	+5	7.1	2.7	∞
601	449	Courtauld Text	563	-2	13.9	3.1	15.4
53½	14	Cupid▲	16½	...	...	...	...
248½	124	Dawson	159	...	...	6.0	12.1
47	22	Drummond	35	...	...	...	...
89	65	Faupel▲	78	...	4.9	7.9	12.1
34	15	Foster (John)	27	...	...	...	...
168	82	Gaskell	167	...	4.2	3.2	...
249	156	Hicking Pntcst	235	...	...	2.2	16.7
90	45	Jerome (S)	65	...	...	0.4	...
485	249	Lamont	460	-3	12.0	3.3	30.4
343½	235½	Leeds	336	...	...	2.1	17.7
122	73	Lyles (S)	86	...	...	4.8	...
215	89	Magellan	177	+3	1.4	1.0	...
286	77½	Parkland	241	...	...	0.9	...
112	62	Readicut	109½	+½	...	3.9	20.6
70	35	SEET	67	-1	...	...	...
147	72	Sirdar	137	...	...	4.9	9.5
72	44	Stirling Gp	63	...	1.9	3.8	17.4
51	35	Stoddard	39	-1	...	4.8	36.3
330	250	Tomkinsons	319	...	...	4.5	27.1
59	30½	West Trust	42 †	...	...	8.0	...
280	126	Yorklyde	260	...	...	2.6	17.0

TOBACCOS

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
570	407	BAT	478	-8	...	5.4	13.9
495	315½	Rothmans	422	-1	...	3.7	13.3

TRANSPORT

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
627	349	Assoc Br Ports	580 †	...	...	2.0	∞
1083	707	BAA	998	-3	...	2.1	24.8
128	106	Badgerline	119	-2	...	4.3	∞
498½	249	Br Airways	426	-2	...	3.2	17.9
113	56	Clarkson (H)	96	...	1.7	2.3	...
665	332	Eurotunnel Uts	544	+3	...	...	...
87	44	Fisher (James)	86	...	0.5	0.7	22.8
293	147	Intl Stearn	287	...	...	3.7	15.0
55	24	Jacobs (JI)	50	...	3.3	8.5	∞
111	41	Lon O'Seas Frs	104	...	...	1.3	19.0
534	264	Mersey Docks	478 †	-15	9.0	2.4	∞
282	181	Natl Express	273	...	...	3.3	28.2
291	218	NFC	250 †	-6½	...	3.5	38.4
348	246	Ocean Group	310	-3	...	5.8	...
91	40	Ocean Wilson	83	...	4.0	6.0	15.0
728	504	P & O Dfd	689	+8	...	5.5	37.4
194	127	P & O 5 1/2%	158	...	...	4.4	...
709	448	Powell Duffryn	671	-2	...	4.2	21.3
241	117	Seacon▲	228 †	...	...	3.1	20.7
206	112	Stagecoach	194	...	...	2.4	23.6
121	31½	TNT	108	...	...	...	...
915	624	Tibbet & Britn	835	+5	12.6	1.9	33.0
382	37	Tiphook	51	-4	...	...	...
327	227	TDG	275 †	+2½	...	4.3	∞
132	98	Ugland	127	...	...	...	...

WATER

High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Net div	Yld %	P/E
610	455	Anglian Water	517 †	-5	...	5.2	9.2
365	244	Mid Kent Hldgs	364	...	...	3.7	13.4
761	547	Northumbrian	651 †	-4	...	4.4	7.6
611	431½	North West	544 †	-2	...	5.0	9.0
645	430	Severn Trent	567 †	-12	...	4.8	8.3
685	454	Sthrn Water	571 †	-2	...	4.8	8.3
1608	1225	Sth Staffs	1558	...	48.5	3.9	11.1
675	465	South West	570 †	-2	...	5.3	9.2
611	454	Thames Water	534	-2	...	5.0	9.3
744	508	Welsh Water	668 †	+1	...	4.5	6.7
759½	536	Wessex Water	666 †	-5	...	4.2	10.6
630	473½	Yorkshire W	528 †	-5	...	5.2	8.8

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
109¾	100⅛	Exch 13¼% 1994	100⅛	-⅛	13.37	5.01
105½	101⅛	Treas 10% 1994	101⅛	-⅛	9.89	5.11
110½	103¼	Exch 12½% 1994	103¼	-⅛	12.10	4.98
105¾	102⅛	Treas 9% 1994	102¼	-⅛	8.77	5.00
111½	105⅛	Treas 12% 1995	105¾	-⅛	11.33	4.96
98	94	Gas 3% 1990-95	97⅛	...	3.06	5.04
109½	106½	Exch 10¼% 1995	106½	-⅛	9.62	5.29
116½	111¼	Treas 12¾% 1995	111⅛	-⅛	11.43	5.41
120¾	114½	Treas 14% 1996	114½	-⅛	12.21	5.59
125½	118⅛	Treas 15¼% 1996	118⅛	-⅛	12.84	5.78
120⅛	115⅛	Exch 13¼% 1996	115⅛	-⅛	11.52	5.78
112⅛	108½	Conv 10% 1996	109⅛	-⅛	9.13	6.07
122⅛	118⅛	Treas 13¼% 1997	118⅛	-⅛	11.22	6.23
114⅛	110⅛	Exch 10½% 1997	111⅛	-⅛	9.44	6.25
110½	105½	Treas 8¾% 1997	107⅛	-⅛	8.15	6.35
132⅛	126⅛	Exch 15% 1997	126⅛	-⅛	11.82	6.49
114⅛	109⅛	Exch 9¾% 1998	110½	-½	8.82	6.58
106⅛	99⅛	Treas 7¼% 1998	103½ †	-½	7.07	6.50
102½	97⅛	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	101⅛	...	6.64	6.29
131½	125⅛	Treas 14% 1998-01	125⅛	-½	11.14	6.80
140⅛	133⅛	Treas 15½% 1998	133⅛	-⅛	11.59	6.70
126⅛	118½	Exch 12% 1998	120⅛	-½	9.98	6.84
116⅛	108⅛	Treas 9½% 1999	110⅛	-⅛	8.56	6.76

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101⅛	96⅛	Treas 6% 1999	97⅛ †	-⅛	6.18	6.62
128½	120½	Exch 12¼% 1999	122⅛ †	-⅛	10.03	6.93
121½	112⅛	Treas 10½% 1999	115⅛	-⅛	9.10	6.87
121½	112⅛	Conv 10¼% 1999	115⅛	-⅛	8.90	6.93
116½	106	Conv 9% 2000	110	-⅛	8.18	6.89
136⅛	125½	Treas 13% 2000	129⅛	-1	10.07	7.17
106⅛	97⅛	Treas 7% 2001	99⅛	-1	7.02	7.02
122⅛	109⅛	Treas 10% 2001	115⅛	-⅛	8.69	7.18
123⅛	108½	Treas 9¾% 2002	115½	-1½	8.47	7.29
113⅛	97⅛	Treas 8% 2003	105⅛	-1	7.60	7.16
127⅛	109½	Treas 10% 2003	117½	-1½	8.48	7.31
129⅛	116½	Treas 11½% 2001-04	122½ †	-1½	9.42	7.37
86⅛	67⅛	Fund 3½% 1999-04	78½	-1½	4.48	6.40
109⅛	95½	Treas 6¾% 2004	96⅛	-1½	7.00	7.19
125⅛	105½	Conv 9½% 2004	115⅛	-1⅛	8.24	7.34
125⅛	105½	Conv 9½% 2005	115⅛ xd	-1⅛	8.20	7.34
143⅛	124½	Treas 12½% 2003-05	133½	-1⅛	9.30	7.57
111½	94½	Treas 8% 2002-06	103⅛ xd	-⅛	7.71	7.40
112⅛	94⅛	Treas 7¾% 2006	103⅛	-1⅛	7.51	7.32
136⅛	118⅛	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	126½	-1⅛	9.29	7.55
119⅛	97⅛	Treas 8½% 2007	109⅛	-1⅛	7.77	7.38
151⅛	131⅛	Treas 13½% 2004-08	140⅛ xd	-1½	9.60	7.58
124⅛	101½	Treas 9% 2008	114⅛ †	-1⅛	7.89	7.40

LONGS (over 15 years)

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
115⅛	92⅛	Treas 8% 2009	105½ †	-1⅛	7.57	7.40
126⅛	100½	Conv 9% 2011	115	-1½	7.83	7.43
127⅛	100⅛	Treas 9% 2012	115⅛	-1⅛	7.80	7.44
94	70½	Treas 5½% 2008-12	83⅛	-⅛	6.61	7.21
114½	89½	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	104⅛	-⅛	7.43	7.39
117½	93⅛	Treas 8% 2013	105⅛ xd	-1⅛	7.57	7.43
150½	125⅛	Exch 12% 2013-17	143⅛	-2⅛	8.34	7.63
128⅛	97⅛	Treas 8¾% 2017	114⅛	-2	7.64	7.43

UNDATED

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
54⅛	38½	War Ln 3½%	47⅛	-⅛	7.44	...
37½	27⅛	Treas 2½%	32½ †	-⅛	7.72	...

INDEX-LINKED

1993/94 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
137⅛	131½	Treas IL 2% 1994	137⅛	...	...	...
204½	194⅛	Treas IL 2% 1996	200½ †	-½	1.57	2.53
113⅛	105⅛	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	110⅛	-⅛	1.78	2.43
176½	159	Treas IL 2½% 2001	171⅛ †	-1⅛	2.50	2.87
173½	155	Treas IL 2½% 2003	167⅛	-1⅛	2.73	3.02
118½	105½	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	113⅛ †	-⅛	2.75	3.03
184⅛	150½	Treas IL 2% 2006	176½	-1⅛	2.85	3.07
168⅛	144	Treas IL 2½% 2009	150⅛	-1⅛	3.06	3.25
175½	148⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2011	165⅛	-1⅛	3.10	3.28
146½	122⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2013	136⅛	-1⅛	3.14	3.30
157½	130⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2016	146⅛	-1⅛	3.20	3.35
152⅛	124⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2020	140⅛ †	-1⅛	3.25	3.38
120½	102⅛	Treas IL 2½% 2024	116⅛	-1⅛	3.21	3.36
128⅛	103½	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	117⅛	-1⅛	3.26	3.38

Source: Finstat

▲ USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ↑ Ex rights issue; ↓ Ex all; ‡ Ex capital distribution; ∞ Figures or report awaited; ... No significant data.

Family Division — Law Report March 17 1994 — Court of Appeal

Childminder can lawfully be registered

Sutton London Borough Council v Davis
Before Mr Justice Wilson
[Judgment March 16]

Justices were entitled to conclude that a childminder was not unfit to look after children despite her refusal to agree to the policy of the local authority and undertake not to smack children in her care.

Mr Justice Wilson so held in the Family Division in a reserved judgment dismissing the London Borough of Sutton's appeal against the decision of Sutton Justices on July 8, 1993 to allow Anne Hilary Davis's appeal under section 77(6) of the Children Act 1989 against the local authority's refusal to register her as a childminder.

Mr James Munby, QC and Miss Caroline Rodger for the council: Mr James Holman, QC and Mr Howard Shaw for Mrs Davis.

MR JUSTICE WILSON said that the local authority had concluded that Mrs Davis was not fit to look after children under the age of eight and had exercised the power given to them under section 71(7)(a) of the 1989 Act to refuse to enter her name upon their register of childminders.

In 1992 the local authority had adopted the policy that an applicant who declined to undertake not to smack a child being minded would automatically be considered not fit for the purposes of section 71 and would be refused registration. It seemed that the same policy had been adopted by a great majority of other local authorities.

The local authority accepted that it was only the refusal of Mrs Davis to give the undertaking about smacking that led them, in accordance with their policy, to refuse registration. They conceded that in all other aspects Mrs Davis met their criteria well.

In reaching their policy about no smacking and in arguing their case the local authority had placed great reliance upon the so-called blue book [Volume 2 of *The Children Act 1989 Guidance and Regulations* issued by the Department of Health in 1991 under section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970] which provided, in paragraph 6.22: "Corporal punishment (smacking, slapping or shaking) is illegal in maintained schools and should not be used by any other parties within the scope of this guidance". It was clear that childminders were within the scope of that guidance and that the local authority had had a duty to act under it.

What was abundantly clear was that the guidance in the blue book, whether in relation to smacking or anything else, was not intended to be applied so strictly that, if an application for registration was in conflict with part of it, there should automatically be a finding of unfitness.

The local authority had adopted a blanket policy that an applicant who refused to undertake not to smack was unfit. It followed that the local authority were not obliged to adopt that policy. In adopting it, they went beyond the guidance of the blue book and therefore went beyond the discharge of their legal duty under section 7 of the 1970 Act.

The local authority said that it had not been open to the justices to query the policy that an applicant was unfit if she declined to undertake not to smack.

They said that, if they were not obliged by law to have adopted the policy, it was at any rate lawful for them to have adopted it; that the justices were obliged to accept the policy as correct; and that the only matter for the justices to consider upon the appeal was whether the case of Mrs Davis did indeed fall within the ambit of the policy.

Mr Munby relied strongly upon the fact that the no smacking policy was lawful. He said, and his Lordship agreed, that not only was it legitimate for a local authority to reach individual decisions by reference to a general policy but also that there was no ground for thinking that the policy of the local authority could have been successfully struck down on any application to the High Court for judicial review.

He went on to submit, and again his Lordship agreed, that, even if the policy had been open to successful challenge upon judicial review, it was no part of the function of the justices themselves to query the legality of the policy.

His Lordship thought that Mr Munby's argument placed much too great a reliance upon the fact that the local authority's policy was lawful and that indeed their decision to refuse to register Mrs Davis was lawful. A decision could be lawful without being correct. Parliament had here chosen to provide that a person aggrieved by the refusal of a local authority to register her as a childminder might appeal against it to the magistrates' court.

It was to be noted that section 77 of the 1989 Act empowered the court to impose requirements on a registered person or to discharge or vary requirements imposed by the local authority.

Those provisions confirmed his Lordship's view that on an appeal the magistrates' court looked at the question for itself and stood in the shoes of the local authority. That meant that the justices had to ask themselves pursuant to section 71(7) whether they were satisfied that the applicant was not fit to look after children under the age of eight.

In saying that, on the appeal, the court stood in the shoes of the local authority, his Lordship had in mind particularly that it must "act under the general guidance of the secretary of state" within the meaning of the 1970 Act.

In other words, the court must, as must the local authority, act under the general guidance of the blue book and in particular, provided only that it was read in its proper context, under the guidance therein that corporal punishment should not be used by childminders.

In their written reasons the justices had not expressly posed or answered the question: were we satisfied that Mrs Davis was not fit to look after children under the age of eight? But it was without doubt implicit in their reasons that they had posed the question to themselves and that they had answered it in the negative.

Mr Munby argued that the justices' references in their reasons to parental rights were irrelevant. In his Lordship's view the references to parental rights were not irrelevant, for two main reasons:

1 The crucial question was the fitness of Mrs Davis and she had at all times been at pains to stress that the ability to smack which she wished to reserve for herself was an ability to smack only if and to the extent that the parent wished her to do so;

2 The blue book emphasised that the policies of local authorities towards childminders should reflect the importance of parental involvement and had even recommended that the contract between the parent and childminder should cover "policy on behaviour and sanctions". It was important to consider its guidance about corporal punishment in that context.

His Lordship also considered that, in weighing the fitness of Mrs Davis for the purposes of section 71(7) of the Act, it was permissible to have some regard to the emphasis upon parental responsibility reflected in so many of the changes wrought by that Act.

The local authority's appeal was based upon what was an erroneous proposition as to the parameters of the jurisdiction of the justices under section 77(6).

His Lordship could discern no error of law in the reasoning of the justices. They had been right to look at the matter *de novo* although in doing so they had paid proper regard to the decision of the local authority. Their crucial conclusion was that, notwithstanding the guidance, they were not satisfied of a necessary fact, namely that Mrs Davis was not fit to look after children under the age of eight.

It was a matter for each local authority to decide whether to elevate the guidance in the blue book in relation to corporal punishment into an inflexible policy that those who refused to undertake not to smack would for that reason alone be declared unfit to look after such children. But, if they decided to adopt such a policy, they had to realise that their decision could be appealed to magistrates who had to weigh the issue of fitness for themselves in the light of the guidance.

At that hearing the local authority would have full opportunity to seek to persuade the court that the absence of the undertaking did indeed render the applicant unfit.

In some cases the magistrates might be persuaded of that fact. But there would be other cases, of which this was an example, where the magistrates would come to a different conclusion which could not be disturbed on further appeal.

His Lordship did not seek to restrict the ambit of such cases when in relation to the present case he adverted in particular to the evidence of the high suitability of Mrs Davis as a childminder in all other respects, and/or of her wish to be able to smack only if and to the extent that the parent wished her to do so, and/or of the fact that she had indeed successfully been minding a child whose parent did wish her to continue to have the facility to smack.

If, as to which his Lordship's opinion was of no consequence, it was inappropriate for certain childminders to be registered notwithstanding their refusal to undertake not to smack, the Government should lay regulations before Parliament under section 72(3)(a) of the 1989 Act or propose other legislation which would disentitle them to registration.

Solicitors: Ms Patricia Hughes, Sutton; Spencer Gibson, Sutton.

No abuse in luring drug smuggler to UK

Regina* v *Latif
Regina v Shahzad
Before Lord Justice Staughton, Mr Justice Tuckey and Mr Justice Holland
[Judgment March 10]

The words "fraudulent evasion" in section 170(2) of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 included more than merely entering the United Kingdom with goods concealed and no intention of declaring them: they extended to any conduct which was directed and intended to lead to the importation of goods covertly, in breach of a prohibition on import.

The Court of Appeal so stated when dismissing the appeals of Khalid Latif and Mohammed Khalid Shahzad against their convictions on March 7, 1991 at Southwark Crown Court (Judge Laurie and a jury) of being knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of the prohibition on importation of a controlled drug. Latif was sentenced to 16 and Shahzad to 20 years imprisonment.

Section 170 of the 1979 Act provides: "(2) ... if any person is, in relation to any goods, in any way knowingly concerned in any fraudulent evasion ... (b) of any prohibition ... for the time being in force with respect to the goods ... he shall be guilty of an offence ..."

Mr Mohammed Latif, who did not appear at trial, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for Latif; Mr Charles Bloom, QC and Mr Andrew Sharpe for Shahzad; Mr Seddon Cripps for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE STAUGHTON, giving the reserved judgment of the court, said that the prosecution version of the facts, accepted by the jury, was that Mr Honi, a Pakistani national, was an informer employed in Pakistan by the United States drug enforcement agency. In that capacity he came to know suppliers of heroin. Two expressed the idea of importing heroin into the UK.

Having reported that to the British drugs liaison officer in Rawalpindi, Mr Honi was encouraged to foster the connection. He suggested to the two men that he knew an airline pilot who could be used as a courier. That was not true.

The two men introduced Shahzad to Mr Honi and Shahzad suggested an export of 30kg of his own. Mr Honi agreed to arrange for the pilot to carry it and that he would receive the drugs himself in London. Either Shahzad, or someone on his behalf, would then collect the drugs.

On April 1, 1990, 20kg of heroin was delivered to Mr Honi. Through the liaison officer it was arranged for the heroin to be carried to the UK by a British Customs and Excise officer named Bolton, who was acting, it would seem, with the knowledge and approval of his superiors.

Mr Honi came to England and was installed in a hotel by the Customs and Excise. His telephone calls were recorded and a video camera was installed. For some weeks he tried to persuade Shahzad to come to England to receive the heroin. Eventually, on May 19, Shahzad came to the hotel. The next day Latif came too and a customs officer delivered six bags of Horlicks, got up to resemble the original bags of heroin. Latif and Shahzad were arrested.

Three points were argued on the appeal:

1 The judge should have made a ruling at the start of the trial that there was abuse of process;

2 The evidence of Mr Honi should have been excluded under section 78 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984;

3 Alternatively, neither appellant was, on the prosecution evidence, guilty of the offence charged, and the judge should have accepted the submission that there was no case to answer.

A fundamental question was what section 170(2) meant. At first sight one might have thought that there had to be some fraudulent person bringing the goods into this country and deceiving the Customs and Excise in the process. If that was right, there was no completed offence in this case.

Such a construction of section 170(2) was not correct, in their Lordships' judgment. It would not catch the man who organised an importation by an innocent courier.

The words "fraudulent evasion" included a good deal more than merely entering the UK with goods concealed and no intention of declaring them. They extended to any conduct which was directed and intended to lead to the importation of goods covertly, in breach of a prohibition on import.

Support for that was to be found in *R v Jakeman* ((1982) 76 Cr App R 223, 228). It followed that there was a case for the appellants to answer.

In the argument on abuse of process it was said first that Shahzad was lured into coming to England by deceit on the part of Mr Honi; second, that the offence under section 170(2) was also committed by Mr Honi and Mr Bolton, who worked for the Customs and Excise, the prosecutors in this case. Indeed, both of them were also guilty of an offence in Pakistan against the local law, namely possession of heroin.

It was submitted that Shahzad was enticed, procured or provoked into committing the offence with which he was charged; hence his prosecution was an abuse of process, and if that was so how much more so, it was argued, in the case of Latif.

Their Lordships did not wholly accept the premises for that argument, although it was true that Shahzad was lured into England by deceit on the part of Mr Honi. It was also possible that Mr Honi and Mr Bolton committed the offence of possessing heroin in Pakistan. But neither Mr Honi nor Mr Bolton was behaving fraudulently in relation to the import of heroin into the UK.

It was true that section 170(2) on its literal wording dealt with knowingly being concerned in a fraudulent evasion, not knowingly and fraudulently being concerned. But surely a modest degree of purposive construction was now permissible even in an English criminal statute, at all events if in favour of the subject.

Their Lordships could not believe that an honest and innocent citizen was intended to be convicted because he was knowingly concerned in evasion which was fraudulent on the part of somebody else.

As to enticement, evidently Shahzad was prepared to supply heroin to somebody. There was no reason to believe that that was his first introduction to drugs but clearly that particular importation would not have happened when and how it did without the assistance of Mr Honi and the Customs and Excise.

How, then, stood the case of abuse of process? It was established that entrapment, or the activity of an *agent provocateur*, was not a defence to a criminal charge: see *R v Smurthwaite*; *R v Gill* (*The Times* October 5, 1993).

Their Lordships endorsed what Lord Griffiths had said in *Somchai Liangsiriprasert v Government of USA* (*The Times* July 3, 1990; [1991] 1 AC 225, 242). All too often their Lordships had to sentence couriers, persons of hitherto good character who had fallen on hard times and tried to earn a few hundred pounds.

Those who employed couriers took good care not to come into range of our courts. If on occasion they were enticed or lured here and then arrested, their Lordships could see no hint of abuse in that.

On the admissibility of Mr Honi's evidence, their Lordships considered that the Parliament that enacted section 78 of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984, for the purpose of protecting the innocent, might have been surprised to hear it invoked on behalf of an importer of heroin worth £3.2 million into this country, in order to exclude the evidence against him on the ground that he was encouraged by an agent of the British government.

But the question remained whether, in the terms of the section, the admission of the evidence would have such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings that the court ought not to admit it. What was more, there was authority in *R v Smurthwaite* that entrapment, or the activities of an *agent provocateur*, or a trick might entitle a judge to exclude evidence under section 78.

In their Lordships' judgment, the admission of Mr Honi's evidence did not have such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings that the judge ought not to have admitted it. Furthermore it was for the judge to decide, not their Lordships, who could not begin to say that he was wrong.

Solicitors: Hird Killeen & Co, Birmingham; Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

Suspension from active rehousing list unlawful

Regina v Tower Hamlets London Borough Council, Ex parte Khalique
Before Mr Justice Sedley
[Judgment March 10]

Where a local authority provided temporary housing it was wrong to defer the provision of settled accommodation on the basis of a rigid policy which had been adopted by a body which had no power to adopt that policy in the name of the council.

Mr Justice Sedley so stated in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division granting the applicant, Abdul Khalique, judicial review of the refusal of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to perform its statutory duty under section 65(2) of the Housing Act 1985.

Mr Robert Latham for Mr Khalique; Mr Ashley Underwood for the council.

MR JUSTICE SEDLEY said that on July 26, 1987, after enquiries, the council had concluded that Mr Khalique had a priority need and was not intentionally homeless. He was notified and the council became obliged to secure that accommodation became available for him and his family.

He was provided with temporary accommodation in August 1987 and from that time the council's rent accounts showed increasing arrears. That was because Mr Khalique's account had not been credited with housing benefit to which he was entitled. The family had been moved but still remained in temporary accommodation.

From recent enquiries on his behalf it was clear that the council had a policy on arrears which resulted in his suspension from the active rehousing list. The council, however, had suggested that efforts were still being made to rehouse him. There was an obvious contradiction.

The duty to provide settled accommodation could lawfully be discharged in stages, provided that at each stage the accommodation was suitable. It did not have to be secure in the legal sense from the start. Mr Justice Mann so held in *R v East Hertfordshire District Council, Ex parte Hunt* ((1985) 18 HLR 51, 55) following in part a decision of the Court of Appeal in *R v Bristol Corporation, Ex parte Hendy* ([1974] 1 All ER 1047).

If, however, the accommodation initially provided was unsettled in the sense that the tenant had no legal right to remain if events beyond his control supervened, then the discharge of the duty, although begun, was not complete: see *R v Camden London Borough Council, Ex parte Wait* ((1986) 18 HLR 434, 442) *per* Mr Justice McCowan.

Thus while unsettled arrangements did not amount to a breach of statutory duty once in being, they did not amount to a final discharge of the duty. It followed that a time would come when it became unreasonable contrary to the policy and objects of the legislation, that a person to whom a priority housing duty was owed was still in temporary and therefore unsettled accommodation.

In the present case it was not necessary to determine what in law and in fact was "settled" accommodation. It was sufficient if, pending the provision of suitable settled accommodation, other suitable accommodation of temporary character was provided, so long as the entitlement to settled accommodation was not deferred or withheld for some improper or illicit reason.

The question before the court was whether Mr Khalique's application had been put on hold for such a reason.

Tower Hamlets had a homelessness board which consisted of a group of councillors. It was conceded that the board was not a committee and it therefore did not have any lawful power to determine policy or even practice, whether by telling officers what to do or by endorsing what they did.

In mid-1991 a decision was taken either by the head of homeless persons, a second-tier officer with no delegated powers, or by the homelessness board to render non-active the applications of persons whom there was a duty to rehouse but who had rent arrears over £500. Housing officers acted under those strict instructions.

A rule which instructed housing officers to render such applicants more than £500 in arrear non-active went well beyond the bounds of lawful policy under the test set out in *British Oxygen Company Ltd v Board of Trade* ([1971] AC 610) since it permitted no flexibility whatsoever.

Mr Latham's submission that rent arrears were an extraneous and irrelevant consideration was correct. They were a debt recoverable by action or by deduction from benefits. They had no bearing on the statutory entitlement, whether explicitly or implicitly. Thus the non-payment of rent did not allow deferment of a housing entitlement as a form of penalty or as a discretionary handicap.

Furthermore, such a rule for determining priority as between applicants in the allocation of its housing accommodation was required by section 106(1) of the Housing Act 1985 to be published at least in summary.

The fundamental vice of the treatment of Mr Khalique was that it had been determined by the decision either of an officer or, in the court's judgment, much more probably, of a small group of majority party councillors sitting with two officers, who neither individually nor collectively possessed the power to decide anything on the local authority's behalf or in its name.

His Lordship declared that Tower Hamlets had acted unlawfully in treating the case of the applicant as non-active at any time after its decision in late July 1987 to accept a housing duty. The declaration was granted not only upon the limited ground, accepted by the local authority, that its policy or rule was indefensibly rigid, but on the further ground that it had been adopted by the decision of an officer or a body which possessed no power to adopt any such policy or rule in the name of the local authority.

Solicitors: Mullinger Banks, East Ham; Mr Robert Joy, Tower Hamlets.

Utmost care needed in dating orders

Pounds v Pounds

Consent orders relating to financial settlements following the breakdown of a marriage should be drawn up and dated with the utmost care to prevent problems later on.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Neill, Lord Justice Hoffmann and Lord Justice Waite) so held on February 24 allowing an appeal by a husband from the decision of Mr Justice Singer who had granted the wife's application to set aside a consent order on the ground that it carried a date antecedent to that of the divorce decree nisi.

LORD JUSTICE WAITE said that the attribution of the wrong date was a clerical error and that the judge ought to have amended the consent order under the slip rule.

Consent orders should be drawn up and dated with the utmost care to avoid a recurrence of the problems which arose in the present case and which must have involved much additional anxiety and expense for the parties.

A putting together of heads by chief clerks and district judges ought to make it possible, for those who had not already done so, to devise for their court files and computers a suitable warning system to prevent any financial consent order being inadvertently allocated a date antecedent to the decree nisi. The present case was an object lesson in the serious consequences which follow if such precautions were overlooked.

Breach of code by customs officer

Regina v Weerdesteyn
Before Lord Justice Hobhouse, Mr Justice Wright and Mr Justice Sachs
[Judgment March 1]

A customs officer's series of questions designed to elicit an incriminating response came within the spirit and letter of an interview. Any note made of the questioning should be seen by the accused at the time and either approved or a written record made of his disagreement.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held in quashing the conviction of Gerrit Johannes Weerdesteyn at Maidstone Crown Court (Judge Nelligan) on December 10, 1992 on two counts of being knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of a prohibition on importation of controlled drugs, contrary to section 170(2) of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 for which he was sentenced on February 5, 1993 on both counts to four years concurrently.

Mr Michael Boardman for the applicant: Mr Oliver Sells for the prosecution.

LORD JUSTICE HOBHOUSE, giving the judgment of the court, said a series of questions by a customs officer which were not asked in the course of a search or a structured interview, but which were designed to elicit an important and incriminating response fell within the less formal category of interview as outlined by the Court of Appeal in *R v Weekes* (*The Times* May 15, 1992) and followed, *inter alia*, in *R v Cox* (*The Times* December 2, 1992; (1993) 96 Cr App R 452).

An accused questioned in that way had to be in full knowledge that he was under no obligation to respond and that any answer given might be used against him: see Code C11 of the *Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (s.66) Codes of Practice*.

The code was designed to protect against unfairly obtained information.

If a note had been taken of what the customs officer had treated as an interview despite the accused's lack of knowledge and the accused had not been shown it when he was still on the premises, nor had any knowledge of it until the criminal proceedings, that untested note constituted a grave breach of the code and evidence obtained in such circumstances, which was central to the point the prosecution had to prove, should have been excluded as seriously incriminating.

It was a source of concern that the code could be so disregarded by a customs officer.

Solicitors: T. V. Edwards, Bow; Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES 071-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

STRATHCLYDE REGIONAL COUNCIL

WATER DEPARTMENT

WATER MAINS REHABILITATION CONTRACTS 1994/95

Applications are invited from suitably qualified experienced Mains Rehabilitation Contractors who wish to be considered for inclusion on a Select List of Tenderers for three main contracts to be executed during the financial year 1994/1995. Successful applicants will only be invited to Tender for a maximum of two of the three Contracts.

The Contracts are for the scraping and relining of a total of approximately 155km of mains using epoxy or cement/mortar lining along with the removal of all obsolete valves and hydrants, etc. and installation of replacements.

These contracts are apportioned on a geographic basis, the estimated size of each contract is 36km, 60km and 67km. All Contract works must be complete by 31 March, 1995.

Applications must be accompanied by the following information:-

1. Full details of all work of a similar nature and scale which has been undertaken in the past five years, with names of the Employer and the Engineer who supervised them. Strathclyde Water reserve the right to contact any previous Employers to enquire about an applicants performance.
2. The names and addresses of persons to whom reference may be made for technical capability.
3. The names and addresses of persons to whom reference may be made for financial standing.
4. Details of the Company structure including the position and experience of the key personnel who would be employed on the contract. Also to be provided is full details of any other organisations the contractor would involve in the project and their role in the project. In the event of an associated group of companies presenting a submission for inclusion on the select list of Tenderers, the Council shall require each company in the group to be jointly and severally liable for the satisfactory performance of the contract. This assurance shall be required, in writing, before any contract shall be awarded to any such group.

Applications should be made in writing no later than 18 April, 1994, to:-

The Director of Water
Strathclyde Regional Council, Water Department
419 Balmore Road, Glasgow, G22 6NU

LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
BRETT JENNERS ASSOCIATES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Warren House, 10-20 Main Road, Hockley, Essex, SS5 4RY on 24th March 1994 at 10.30 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Notice is also hereby given, pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that Jamie Taylor of Messrs. Taylor Cothan, Warren House, 10-20 Main Road, Hockley, Essex SS5 4RY is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the above Company, and will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated the 14th March 1994
By order of the Board
P.J. Harris, Director

No. 000100 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF SAXON INNS LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 22nd February 1994 confirms the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the Company by £377,008 was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 8th March 1994.

Dated this 8th day of March 1994
Richards Butler
Beaufort House
15 St. Botolph Street
London EC3A 7EE
Solicitors for the said Company

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - Police Dependents Trust
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, quoting reference number ND-251021 A/2-CDG.dn2)

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of appointment of Liquidator voluntary winding up (Members or Creditors)
Pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986
Name of company: Chrisdeal & Other Underwriting Agencies Limited
Previous names of company: Jardine (Lua) 1990 Limited, Nelson Hurst & Marsh Agencies Limited, Chrisdeal Underwriting Agencies Limited.
Nature of business: Members' Agent
Type of Liquidation: Creditors
Address of registered office: St Andrew's House, 20 St Andrew Street, London EC4A 3AY
Liquidators names and Addresses: Malcolm John London, Philip John Singer, St Andrew's House, 20 St Andrew Street, London EC4A 3AY.
Office holder numebrs: 2082, 6366
Date of appointment: 1 March 1994
By whom appointed: Creditors
Signatures: M J London, P J Singer
Date: 1 March 1994

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
ASABA INTERNATIONAL LIMITED
(IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held under the provisions of Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986 at the Insurance Hall, Chartered Insurance Institute, 20 Aldermanbury, London, EC2V 7HY on 31 March, 1994 at 11am for the purposes mentioned in S48(2) and S49 of that Act.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
Creditors who intend to vote at the meeting should note the following:
(a) Written statements of claim must be lodged with the administrative receiver by 12 noon on the day before the meeting at Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU.
(b) Proxies for use at the meeting must also be lodged with the administrative receiver.
M E Mills
Joint Administrative Receiver
Date 15 March 1994

No.00704 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
Mr. Registrar Buckley
Wednesday the Second day of March 1994
IN THE MATTER OF CITY ACRE PROPERTY INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 2nd March 1994 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £52,818,651 to £1,000,000 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect of the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the aforementioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 8th March 1994.
Dated this 8th day of March 1994
MISHCON DE REYA
21 Southampton Row
London WC1B 5HS
Solicitors for the above-named Company
Ref: 38/PMM/AD

LEGAL NOTICES

Richards Fabrications Ltd
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
In accordance with Rule 4.106 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, notice is hereby given that I, S.D. Sweden, FCA a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs. Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 853, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London, W2 6LF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members and creditors on 11th March 1994.
DATED THIS 11th March 1994
S.D. Sweden, FCA
Liquidator
Leonard Curtis & Co.
Chartered Accountants
PO Box 853,
30 Eastbourne Terrace
(2nd Floor), London W2 6LF

MAYFAIR ANDREWS LIMITED
Registered Number: 626519
Former company name: Mayfair Heating Services Limited
Trading Name: Mayfair Andrews Limited
Nature of Business: Manufacturing Industry
Trade Classification: 27
Date of Appointment of Administrative Receivers: 10 March 1994
Name of person appointing the Administrative Receivers: Lloyds Bank Plc
Names of persons appointed: S V Frankel and I P Phillips both of Buckler Phillips, 84 Grosvenor Street LOndon W1X 9DF. (Office Holder Nos: 8291 and 2656

The Insolvency Act 1986
MODERN TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT HOUSE LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of Creditors of the above named company will be held at The Chartered Insurance Institute, 20 Aldermanbury, London, EC2V 7HY on Wednesday 30th March 1994 at 11.30 am for the purposes provided for in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act. A proxy form together with a statement of your claim, at the offices of Benedict McQueen, not later than 12.00 Noon on Tuesday 29th March 1994 is entitle you to vote by proxy at the meeting. Information concerning the company or its affairs will be available free of charge from the offices of Anthony Peter McQueen Benedict, a licensed insolvency practitioner of Benedict McQueen, 3-4 Musgrave Court, Musgrave Road, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 6LF. 081 642 2282 during the period up to the meeting of creditors
Dated this 4th day of March 1994
R.V. PEARCE, Director

Richards Fabrications Ltd
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 22nd April 1994, to send their full forenames, surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned S.D. SWeden, FCA Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 853, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are personally or by their Solicitors to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
DATED THIS 11th March 1994
S.D. Sweden, Liquidator

NO. 00982 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF YANKEE NOODLE RESTAURANTS LTD
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was presented to her Majesty's High Court of Justice on 10th February, 1994 for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company by £2,700,000 from £2,998,300 to £298,300.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr. Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 30th day of March, 1994.
ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said Reduction of the Share Premium Account should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 17th day of March 1994
Osborne Clarke,
6-9 Middle Street,
London EC1A 7JA
Solicitors for the above-named Company

Case No. 01399 of 1994
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF ALPHA AIRPORTS GROUP PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 1st March 1994 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share premium account of the above-named company from £196,968,000 to £18,468,000.
AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr. Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 30th March 1994
Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for the purpose.
A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undersigned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 17th day of March 1994
Messrs Palmer & Co.,
Bouverie House,
154 Fleet Street,
London EC4A 2DQ
Solicitors for the above-named Company

ACCORD CONSULTING LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Trevlot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex, on 29/3/94 at 11.00 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of A Segal & Co., Trevlot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford, Essex, IG1 1JG, between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on from Friday 25th March 1994.
Dated: 14/3/94 J.P. Dunne (Director)

LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
BRETT JENNERS ASSOCIATES LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Warren House, 10-20 Main Road, Hockley, Essex, SS5 4RY on 24th March 1994 at 10.30 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Notice is also hereby given, pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that Jamie Taylor of Messrs. Taylor Cothan, Warren House, 10-20 Main Road, Hockley, Essex SS5 4RY is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the above company, and will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated the 14th March 1994
By order of the Board
P.J. Harris, Director

THE TIMES

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هكذا من الأصل



MUSIC page 34
Jose Carreras returns to the Albert Hall with a concert of Mario Lanza's greatest hits

ARTS

RADIO page 35
Sue Johnston moves from Brookside to Strangeways in a drama written by inmates



CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** on the multinational, superstar-studded, extravagant soap opera *The House of the Spirits*

Spectacle in search of a united notion



Meryl Streep, as Clara Trueba, and a heavily disguised Jeremy Irons, as her husband Esteban, share a tender moment in *The House of the Spirits*

Can it really be Jeremy Irons behind that curly thatch of hair, boot polish make-up, and hopeful stab at a Latin-American accent? And look at Glenn Close with her jet-black locks, jet-black clothes and basilisk stare. Is she auditioning for the Addams family? Passing lightly over Meryl Streep, Winona Ryder and Vanessa Redgrave, we come to Armin Mueller-Stahl. He looks normal enough, but speaks with the dubbed voice of an American commercial. What is going on?

The explanation is simple. **The House of the Spirits**, long in the works, is an international production. The material comes from Chile, the director from Denmark, the producer from Germany, the locations from Portugal and the players from both ends of the rainbow.

Since Isabel Allende's epic family saga found readers throughout the world, this potpourri approach might be thought reasonable. But when a cast is enslaved by make-up artists and the dialogue coach, the spectacle can be hard to swallow.

Spectacle of all sorts dominates *The House of the Spirits*. As adapted by the director, Bille August, Allende's novel spans 50 turbulent years of the Trueba family in a nameless South American republic (call it Chile). In the beginning Irons's Esteban Trueba works down the mines. But he soon acquires extensive land, a beautiful wife fated to die young, diverse strange relatives and a hacienda full of secrets. By the end, in the 1970s, he has become a grey, wizened right-wing politician, his family almost pulled asunder by passion and the pursuit of power.

Allende's novel, published in 1985, viewed the Trueba dynasty through "magical realist" spectacles, blurring the edges between dream and reality. August's film manages to look sumptuous easily enough: the wide-screen images take in rolling hills and scores of extras, while Anna Asp's interior design creates a tangible hot-house atmosphere. But magical? No.

August is a painstaking, prosaic man who directs one scene, then moves on to the next. No inner force propels these characters or binds their actions. Streep's ethereal clairvoyant, Close's spinster in black, Antonio Bandero's fiery peasant and all the rest are caught in a highbrow soap opera, where life is just one damn drama after another.

The delays in getting the production mounted cannot have helped. Allende sold the rights back in 1987, when August won her seal of approval with his film *Pelle the Conqueror*. By the following year, Close, William Hurt and Isabella Rossellini were firmly inked in, with Warner Brothers and David Puttnam installed as producers.

Then feet were dragged, and August wandered off to direct Bergman's script of *The Best Intentions*. He then relaunched the project with producer Bernd Eichinger, an amended cast, too many compromises, and what looks like dwindling creative fire. *The House of Spirits* should be filed away with *Ironweed* and *At Play in the Fields of the Lord*: notable novels, perhaps, but dreadfully misguided, stillborn films.

Relief is at hand with **Autumn Moon**, a modest Hong Kong art film, two years old, that keeps the eye beguiled, the mind intrigued and the cockles of the heart nicely warmed.

Clara Law, the director, has directed for Hong Kong television and studied in England at the National Film and Television School. The first thing you notice is her strong visual eye. Using a striking palette of greys and blues, she turns Hong Kong's arid modern architecture into towering beauties of glass. She plays with space to suggest, without strain, her principal themes: culture's fragility, and the difficulties of human contact in a world of camcorders and computers. You think back to Antonioni's studies in alienation some 30 years ago.

Visual poetry aside, *Autumn Moon* is also a film with a human face. "No fish here," the 15-year-old heroine says as she finds a sullen young Japanese tourist, rod outstretched on the waterfront. He hankers for traditional food; she takes him to McDonald's, although her aged grandmother makes recompense later.

In a depopulated Hong Kong quite unlike the bustling city of most films, the two strike up a tentative friendship across barriers of language and experience. Both are caught in limbo. She, pouting, waits out the summer while her parents, in Canada, arrange for her emigration. He is a visitor, rootless, adrift. The grandmother, too, is almost left stranded. Soon all that will be left of her traditional culture is the altar to Buddha perched on the kitchen wall. The film does not need to emphasise that Hong Kong itself is in limbo, awaiting the Chinese takeover.

The pacing is slow, the mood contemplative. But Law, making her fourth feature, never dawdles, and the nuanced performances by Li Pui Wai and Masatoshi Nagase blend subtly with the symphony of images. Not every film at the ICA's cinema is worth incarceration in some of London's least comfortable seats. This one is.

When a cast list includes Broadway musical luminaries such as Mandy Patinkin and Joel Grey, the least the director should do is let them sing a little Sondheim, or perhaps something from *Cabaret*. But Philip Haas, a documentary maker breaking into features, proves unrelenting. So, in **The Music of Chance** they are obliged to fry other fish.

Grey, perched inside a lovely cream jacket, plays poker with his fellow wealthy recluse Charles Durning. Patinkin, who bankrolls James Spader's lowlife gambler in the game, loses his funds and his car, and must pay off the debt by building a memorial wall from the stones of a 15th century castle.

A wall? A wall. For this is an adaptation of a novel by Paul Auster, the cult American writer who spins strange philosophical, metaphoric tales that have caused some to whisper the names of Kafka and Beckett.

While the situation is being set up, *The Music of Chance* stays lively. Spader is particularly diverting, flexing acting muscles not seen before. But once he and Patinkin are kept virtual prisoners, hauling stones for 50 days under the supervision of M. Emmett Walsh, Auster's games with chance and destiny prove insufficient to carry the film to audiences unfamiliar with the novel. Still, Haas clearly has talent; he should try again.

The House of the Spirits
Empire, 15, 150 mins
Highbrow soap opera culled from Isabel Allende's novel

Autumn Moon
ICA Cinema, 108 mins
Haunting Hong Kong film about youthful alienation

The Music of Chance
Metro, 15, 95 mins
Intriguing version of Paul Auster's novel

The Third Man / Brighton Rock
Everyman, PG
104 mins, 92 mins
Classics from British cinema's golden age

As part of its 60th anniversary year, the Hampstead Everyman is resurrecting 12 British classics from the industry's postwar glory days, when our film-makers showed an audacity that faded too soon in the 1950s. Carol Reed and Graham Greene's **The Third Man** (daily until next Thursday) appears often enough on television. But you need the large screen to do justice to the tilted camera angles and the sense of unease as Joseph Cotton's naive hero stumbles round Vienna's allied zones, black markets and Orson Welles.

Brighton Rock, also from a Greene novel, may be less familiar, although you are missing part of British pop culture if you have never seen Richard Attenborough's psychotic Pinkie, slinking round a dark satanic Brighton with cold-fish eyes, a monotone voice, and a fancy jacket with shoulder pleats.

It is a notable performance, although only half convincing. You believe far more in the background detail and the sense of terrible danger one step away from the deckchairs. The Boulting brothers' sturdy film plays for a week from March 25.

The season's ten other films, from the well-behaved *Brief Encounter* to the unbuttoned *Good Time Girl*, change daily in support.

TELEVISION: A boy's vision results in charming inconsequentiality

The genesis of revelation

The billings in the *Radio Times* tell you funny things these days. Apart from ordering what you should watch, they quote reviews from national newspapers and wander from the point. For last night's **Screen Two: All Things Bright and Beautiful** (BBC2), they told us that the film's writer-director Barry Devlin is "best-known in Ireland as the lead singer of the 1970s Celtic rock band Horslips". How peculiar.

More to the point would have been a handsome acknowledgement of *Whistle Down the Wind*, the 1961 Bryan Forbes film in which some rural kiddies, led by Hayley Mills, discovered a swarthy, bedraggled Alan Bates in a barn and leapt to the conclusion that he was Jesus, when in fact he was a murderer on the run.

In *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, set in 1954, a little boy living in County Tyrone called Barry discovered the similarly swarthy, bedraggled Gabriel Byrne in a barn, and leapt to the conclusion that he was Barabbas, from a picture in church. Naturally, Byrne was not a bone fide Calvary character, however. He was a murderous IRA man kipping in the straw. Whoops, there could be trouble there.

But the strength of *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, with its intense technical clarity (great photography, great sound), turned out to be its inconsequentiality. From Barry's point of view, there was no harm done. His "vision" of Barabbas, and then his innocent chats with a statue of the Blessed Virgin, certainly provided the motor for the plot (the parish priest proclaims a miracle), but cleverly the grown-up reaction never counted for more than the experience of the child, in whose imagination dream and reality and 1950s wireless favourites were of roughly level importance.

Tom Wilkinson, as the frustrated priest, was a walking lather of religiosity, anger and desperation; but sensibly the script never took us inside him, and it was hard to feel sympathy when his dream collapsed. Watching him taken away by men in black coats, one thought: "That's life."

The point of the highly secular soundtrack ("The Ugly Duckling", "Nellie the Elephant", and that old typewriter record with the "ping!") was presumably to highlight the peculiar mess of impressions to which a boy in 1954 would be subject. It was all jolly evocative, even for people who had never wanted to help a priest build a grotto in the "Marian" year — dedicated by the Pope to the worship of the Virgin Mary — of 1954. When the boy and his father (Kevin McNally) waited at the barber shop for a haircut, one minute it was Danny Kaye singing "You're a very fine swan indeed", and the next it was a religious talk on the conversion of St Paul.



The boy (Ciaran Fitzgerald) and the priest (Tom Wilkinson)

For the child, a broken dog ornament is as upsetting as a shattered statue of the Virgin, because he loves them both. When he listens for the voice of Mary he hears (and comically relays to the awestruck priest) the equivalent of *Thought for the Day*.

Since he carried the whole story, the boy needed to be exceptionally good, and Ciaran Fitzgerald was terrific. He mainly acted on his own, as children do; and indeed his best scenes involved his irreverent talks with the unresponsive Virgin, asking her to check with Barabbas that the parish was a good one to visit.

The rite-of-passage theme was the only false note. The ugly duckling becomes a very fine swan indeed? No thanks. Asked whether he was the child who saw the Virgin, he says, significantly: "It wasn't *me* that saw her. It was a *little* child." I wish he hadn't said that; it was completely out of character.

LYNNE TRUSS

6 BAFTA AWARD NOMINATIONS
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Derek Malcolm - THE GUARDIAN

"GREAT ACTING IN A MASTERPIECE FROM DIRECTOR DICKIE Hopkins...reserve him a place among the all-time greats... Debra Winger...gives a beautiful multi-layered performance."
Christopher Tookey - DAILY MAIL

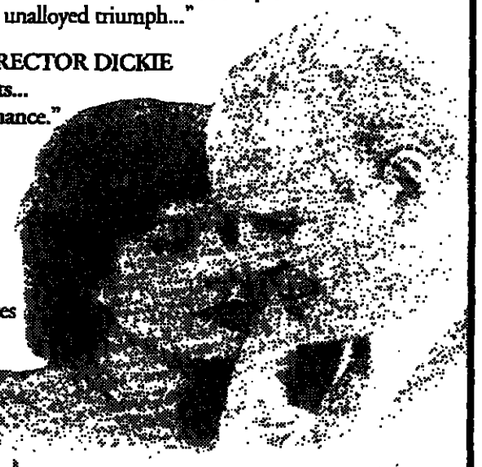
"Utterly wonderful...brimming with aching honesty and sublime dialogue...glorious performances... Hopkins and Winger are truly a delight"
Sue Heal - TODAY

"British film-making at its very best..."
Quentin Falk - SUNDAY MIRROR

"This is Attenborough's finest work...faultless performances from Anthony Hopkins and Debra Winger..."
Hugo Davenport - DAILY TELEGRAPH

"Love Story for grown-ups."
Barry Norman - FILM '94

"Pure joy to behold."
Iain Johnstone - SUNDAY TIMES



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TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

THE CASE OF REBELLIOUS SUSAN: Henry Arthur Jones's daring comedy of 1894, in which a wife is prepared to commit adultery just because her husband does.
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (081-940 3633). Previews from tonight, 7.45pm. Opens March 21, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Mar 24, 31, Apr 7, 2.30pm and Sat (not Mar 19), 4pm. Until Apr 23

THE PEARL FISHERS: ENO offers a hugely enjoyable but flawed evening with its revival of Bizet's popular tale of romantic rivalry set in ancient Ceylon. Philip Prowse has prettified his 1987 production. Alexander Sanders conducts. John Hudson, Jonathan Summers and Gillian Webster sing.
London Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161). 7.30pm

SHANE MACGOWAN AND THE POPES: The Pogues's old rebel-rouser returns with his new line-up to celebrate St Patrick's day in south London.
Grand, Clapham Junction, SW11 (071-738 9000). 7pm

SPANISH CHORAL MUSIC. For this Spanish Arts Festival concert, one of London's best chamber choirs, the Joyful Company of Singers, imaginatively mixes Spanish Renaissance choral masterpieces with modern settings of Spanish texts by two British composers: Jonathan Harvey and Geoffrey Burgon. Also in the concert is the British premiere of Javier Busto's *Missa Brevis Pro Pace*.
St Giles, Cripplegate, Barbican, EC2 (071-638 8891). 7.30pm.

ELSEWHERE

BASINGSTOKE: New Richard Harris thriller — **Murder Once Done** — about a woman involved in a car accident to whom frightening things then start happening.
Haymarket, Wote Street (0256 465566). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Mon to Sat, 7.45pm. Mats. Sat 3pm. Until April 16

IPSWICH: Premiere of Shared Experience's co-production with Wolsey Theatre, **Mill on the Floss**, which reunites the team responsible for the award-winning *Anna Karenina*. Three actresses share the role of Maggie.
Wolsey, Civic Drive (0473 253725). Opens tonight, 7.45pm. Then Tue to Fri, 7.45pm. Sat 8pm. Mats Wed, 2.30pm Sat 4pm. Until April 2.

MANCHESTER: The veteran virtuoso pianist **Shura Cherkassky** plays Chopin's Second Piano Concerto with the Hallé Orchestra under Stanislav Skrowaczewski's direction. The programme also contains the Concerto for Orchestra by another distinguished Pole: Witold Lutoslawski, who died last month.
Free Trade Hall, Peter Street, Manchester, M2 (061-834 1712). 7.30pm

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: All Human Life: Hutton Deutsch Collection (071-638 4141) ... **British Museum**: Study of Italian Old Master Drawings; Deities and Devotions: Hindu Art (071-636 1555) ... **Festival Hall**: The Thirties, Anxiety and Escapism (071-928 3002) ... **Hayward**: Salvador Dalí/Unbound ... **National Portrait Gallery**: Holbein and the Court of Henry VIII (071-306 0055) ... **National Gallery**: Claude, the Poetic Landscape (071-839 3321) ... **Royal Academy of Arts**: Goya — Truth and Fantasy; Art of the Ancient World; The Unknown Modigliani (071-439 7438)
Tate: Picasso: Writing on the Wall; women artists (071-887 8008) ... **V & A**: Fabergé; The Golden Age 1730-1760: brass inlaid furniture (071-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London
■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

◪ **THE ABSENCE OF WAR**: John Thaw stars in David Hare's study of the Labour Party. Brilliant, necessary, or unfair, depending on your point of view. Final week of performances.
National (Olivier), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Tonight, 7.15pm; mat, 2pm.

□ **APRIL IN PARIS**: Gary Olsen and Maria Friedman in John Godber's simplistic play about the benefits of travel.
Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (071-836 6111). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs 3pm, Sat 5pm and Sun 4pm.

■ **THE BIRTHDAY PARTY**: Anton Lesser is cosseted by Dora Bryan in a strongly cast revival of Pinter's first full-length play. Sam Mendes directs.
National (Lyttleton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Opens tonight, 7pm, then in repertoire.

□ **DEMOCRACY**. British premiere for Canadian John Murrell's play set in 1863. Walt Whitman and Ralph Waldo Emerson provide sanctuary for two Civil War soldiers.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (081-743 3388). Last preview tonight, 8pm. Opens tomorrow, 7pm, then Mon-Sat, 8pm.

□ **THE EAGLE HAS TWO HEADS**: Susannah York directs Lisa Harrow and Stash Kirkbridge as Queen and assassin in Cocteau's drama.
Lilian Baylis, Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-837 4104). Opens tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm. Until Apr 2.

◪ **THE FLAG**: Opening production by Moving Theatre, based on a Robert Shaw novel set in a Suffolk parish in 1926. The strong cast includes Jennifer Hilary, Kika Markham, Corin Redgrave.
Bridge Lane, Bridge Lane, Battersea, SW11 (071-228 8828). Tue-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sun, 4pm (not Mar 27) 4pm. Until April 2.

◪ **FOOTFALLS**: Twenty minutes of Beckett. Deborah Warner directs Fiona Shaw in a tight, sharp vision. See review, page 35.

Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-494 5085). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm and 9.30pm. One week only.

◪ **HOT SHOE SHUFFLE**: Hit Australian musical about seven tap dancing brothers and their tangle footed sister. Lots of Big Band music.
Queens, Shaftsbury Avenue, W1 (071-494 5040). Previews, 8pm. Opens March 22, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

◪ **KING LEAR**: Excellent Ben Thomas ages up to play the hero in Talawa Theatre's touring production. The first black Lear to play London since mid-Victorian days.
Cochrane, Southampton Row, WC1 (071-242 7040). Last preview tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon to Sat 7.30pm. Mats: Tue (March 22, April 12), Thurs (March 17, 24, April 14), Sat (April 9). 2.30pm. Till April 16.

□ **KIT AND THE WIDOW: JANUARY SALE**: Suave and stinging, the musical satirists pass comment on the social scene with their familiar skill.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (071-836 9987). Mon-Fri, 7.30pm; Sat 6pm and 8.30pm.

■ **THE LIFE OF GALILEO**: David Hare's new version of the Brecht. Richard Griffiths plays the worldly-wise scientist hamstrung by the Inquisition.
Almeida, Almeida St, N1 (071-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm. Until April 2.

□ **SEPTEMBER TIDE**: Daphne du Maurier's drama of inappropriate passion arrives in the West End again (last time, 1948), from the King's Head. With Susannah York.
Comedy, Panton St, SW1 (071-867 1045). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed 3pm and Sat 4pm.

◪ **THE THREE LIVES OF LUCIE CABROL**: Complicite's profoundly moving staging of John Berger's tale of an enduring Alpine woman.
Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, Hammersmith, W6 (081-748 3354). Mon-Sat, 8 pm; mats some Sat, 3.30 pm. Until Apr 9

◪ **WICKED, YAAR!**: Urban fairytale where a genie helps a bullied Asian cricketing hopeful. Surging bhangra music but opportunities for a tougher analysis of racism are missed.
National, (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Until March 19, 7.30pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm.

LONG RUNNERS

□ **An Absolute Turkey**: Globe (071-494 5065) ... □ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (071-867 1044) ... □ **Buddy**: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) ... □ **Carousel**, Shaftesbury (071-379 5399) ... ◪ **Cats**: New London (071-405 0072) ... □ **Crazy for You**: Prince Edward (071-734 8951) ... □ **Don't Dress for Dinner**: Duchess (071-494 5070) ... □ **Five Guys Named Moe**: Lyric (071-494 5045) ... ■ **Grease**: Dominion (071-580 8845) ... ◪ **An Inspector Calls**: Aldwych (071-836 6404) ... □ **Me and Mamie O'Rourke**: Strand (071-930 8800) ... ◪ **Les Misérables**: Palace (071-434 0909) ... ◪ **Miss Saigon**: Theatre Royal (071-494 5400) ... □ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (071-836 1443) ... □ **Oleanna**: Duke of York's (071-836 5122) ... ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (071-494 5400) ... □ **Piaf**: Piccadilly (071-867 1118) ... □ **Relative Values**: Savoy (071-836 8888) ... ◪ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) ... □ **Travels With My Aunt**: Whitehall (071-867 1119) ... □ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (071-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

THE JOY LUCK CLUB (15): Handsome but shallow version of Amy Tan's novel about Chinese-American families and culture. Wayne Wang directs an accomplished cast.
Curzon West End (071-439 4805) **MGM Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **Screen/Hill** (071-435 3366)

◆ **MY LIFE** (12). Michael Keaton, dying of cancer, makes a video scrapbook for his future offspring. Dubious schmaltz from the writer of *Ghost*, Bruce Joel Rubin. With Nicole Kidman.
MGMs: Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Haymarket** (071-839 1527) **Tottenham Court Road** (071-636 6148) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Warner** (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

◆ **ON DEADLY GROUND** (15) Absurd, violent tale of Steven Seagal saving Alaska from a rapacious oil company. Seagal also directs. With Michael Caine and Joan Chen.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Oxford Street** (071-636 0310) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Odeon Marble Arch** (0426 914501) **Warner** (071-437 4343) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

PETAIN (12): Worthy slice of history, with Jacques Dufilho as Marshal Pétain and Jean Yanne as Pierre Laval, leaders of Vichy France. Director, Jean Marboeuf
MGM Swiss Centre (071-439 4470)

CURRENT

◆ **IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER** (15) Father and son share a prison cell. Powerful, urgent film inspired by the Guildford Four stars Daniel Day-Lewis, Pete Postlethwaite and Emma Thompson. Jim Sheridan directs.
MGMs: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800-888 997) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Baker Street** (071-935 2772) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

◆ **THE AGE OF INNOCENCE** (U). Scorsese's spellbinding, heartfelt version of Edith Wharton's novel about stifled love in old New York. Daniel Day-Lewis, Michelle Pfeiffer, Winona Ryder.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) **MGMs: Chelsea** (071-352 5096) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (071-836 8279) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Mezzanine** (0426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

THE BALLAD OF LITTLE JO (15): Well-heeled girl passes as a man in a gold-rush mining town. Over-solemn feminist Western from director Maggie Greenwald; with Suzy Amis.
Metro (071-437 0757)

◆ **A BRONX TALE** (18). Potent yarn of father, son and neighbourhood wiseguys. A strong directing debut by Robert De Niro.
MGM Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) **Odeons: Kensington**, to Sat only (0426-914 666) **West End** (0426-915 574)

◆ **SCHINDLER'S LIST** (15). German businessman (Liam Neeson) saves his Jewish workers from the camps. Impressive, grown-up epic from Steven Spielberg co-stars Ralph Fiennes and Ben Kingsley.
Barbican (071-638 8891) **Empire** (0800-888 911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (071-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (071-370 2636) **Trocadero** (071-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

FAREWELL MY CONCUBINE (15): Chen Kaige's Cannes prizewinner: a bumper bundle of dazzling visuals, Peking Opera, and Chinese history. With Leslie Cheung and Gong Li.
Electric (071-792 2020/0328) **MGMs: Piccadilly** (071-437 3561) **Swiss Centre** (071-439 4470) **Minema** (071-235 4225)

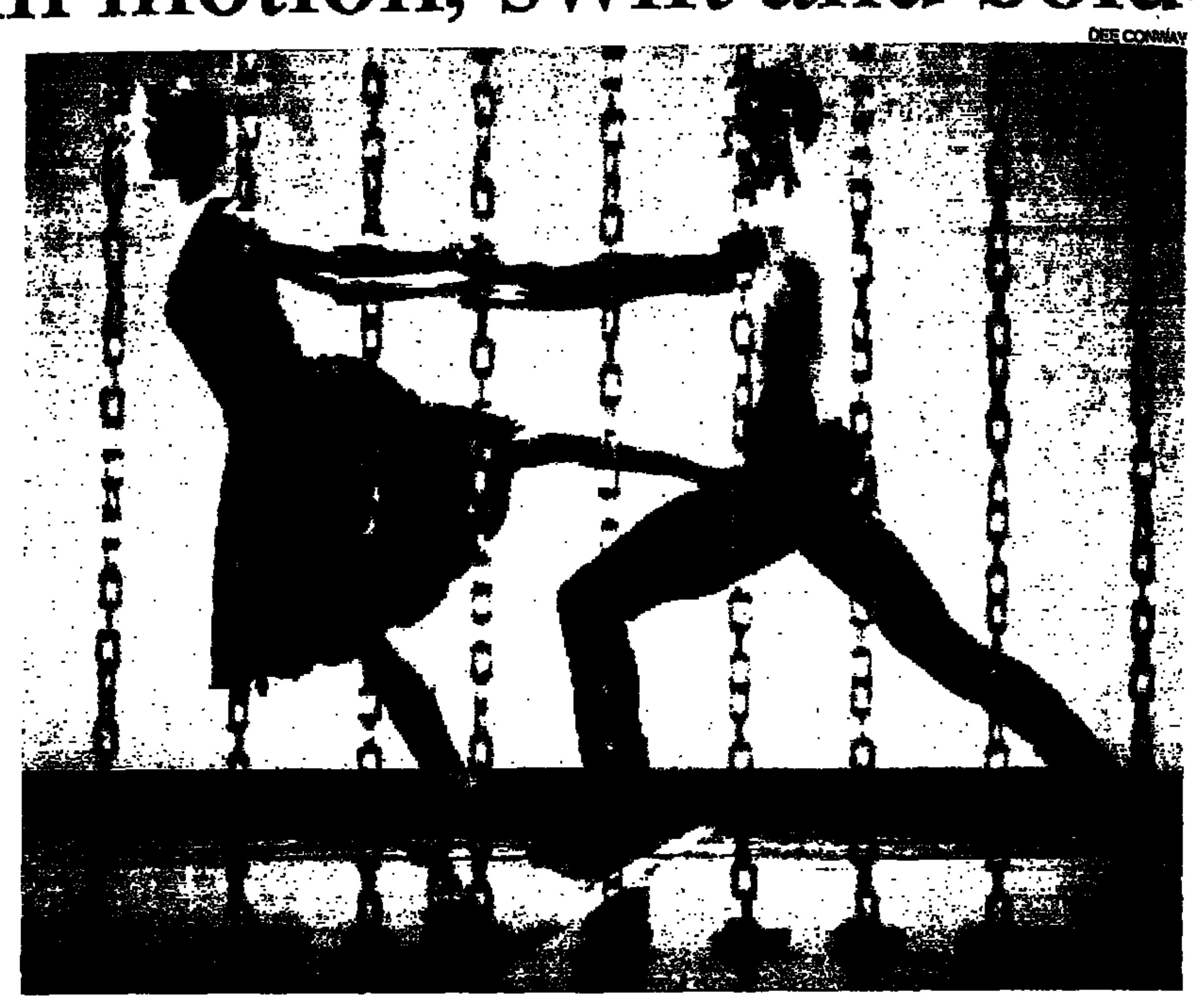
◆ **PHILADELPHIA** (12): An Aids victim's fight for justice. Compromises galore but dynamically told. With Tom Hanks and Denzel Washington; Jonathan Demme directs.
MGM Chelsea (071-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426 914666) **Leicester Square** (0426-915 683) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

SHADOWLANDS (U): Skilful rendition of William Nicholson's play about C. S. Lewis's emotional awakening. With Anthony Hopkins and Debra Winger; Richard Attenborough directs.
Odeons: Kensington (0426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **West End** (0426-915 574) **UCI Whiteleys** (071-792 3332)

SHORT CUTS (18): Robert Altman's dazzling kaleidoscope of fractured lives in Los Angeles. The superb cast includes Andie MacDowell, Bruce Davison, Tim Robbins, Matthew Modine and Lily Tomlin.
Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742) **Gate** (071-727 4043) **Lumiere** (071-836 0691) **Odeons: Kensington** (0426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0426 914098) **Renoir** (071-837 8402) **Screen/Green** (071-226 3520) **Warner** (071-437 4343)

Poetry in motion, swift and bold

DEE CONWAY



Catherine Allard and Patrick de Bana in Nacho Duato's mysterious and powerful recent work, *Cautiva*

Compania Nacional de Danza
Sadler's Wells

LET us be clear: the Compania Nacional de Danza appearing at Sadler's Wells this week is a dance company from Spain, not a "Spanish-dance" company. No castanets; this is ballet for today, swift and powerful and dramatic. Nearly two dozen dancers appearing in Tuesday's programme revealed no weak links. Their energy and expressiveness, in equal quantities, had the audience cheering.

Nacho Duato, their director since 1990, has transformed what was an eclectic mainstream ballet troupe into one of the new wave of companies pioneered by Jiri Kylian in The Netherlands and now gaining ground in more and more countries. The style calls for extreme skill and daring from its performers and a strong sense of theatre, but expressed in an elliptic kind of physical poetry.

At home, Duato's company performs ballets by other choreographers, from famous names to local beginners. But for its first visit to Britain (as part of the Spanish Arts Festival), it has brought seven works, all by him, created over the last six years. Kylian is the biggest influence on his work; anything else would be surprising, as Duato spent nine years dancing with Netherlands Dance Theatre and made his first ballets there.

Where he makes his choreography individual is through the choice of subject-matter and, particularly, of music. A Catalan singer, Maria del Mar Bonet, has been a big influence on him, represented on this programme by a duet, *Cor Perdut*, to her version of an Armenian lament. Duato, tall and striking, makes his only personal appearance in this, partnering Catherine Allard in a tormented, passionate but doomed encounter.

I would never have guessed, without the programme note, that *Na Floresta* is about the beauty of the Armenian rainforest, but its fluently dissolving and returning patterns respond well to insistent music by Villa-Lobos. A solo for an unidentified woman, full of humorous gambolings, is both pretty and witty, but mostly the work shows the ensemble strength of the company.

The other two works both carry a strong dramatic theme. In *Rassemblement*, the score by Toto Bissainthe (based on Haitian slave songs) and Walter Nobbe's mysterious backcloth bring us to a tropical forest at night, where voodoo chants convey a threat that suddenly becomes reality when two soldiers find one of the small community on his own, and beat him up. This sequence is the more powerful because the violence is shown symbolically, not realistically. Tony Fabre gives a supple, quivering vividness to the victim, but the other seven dancers are equally successful in suggesting a continuing struggle for existence in a frightening world.

The programme's best work is the most recent — a good sign. The score of *Cautiva*, by the Basque composer Alberto Iglesias, uses the voices of a woman and a man in regretful reminiscence as the starting point for an intense, gripping musical development. Duato's choreography also shows a woman (Catherine Allard) and a man (Patrick de Bana) as its central characters, but with an ensemble suggesting a world that interrupts their private emotions. A curtain of heavy chains, dropping down unexpectedly with a tremendous crash just before the end, provides both a shocking metaphor of separation and a bleak, suicidal end for the woman. This mysterious work is full of suggestive theatrical resonance.

JOHN PERCIVAL

CONCERTS: A Mario Lanza tribute in London; Towards the Millennium in Birmingham

From tenor to tenor

Jose Carreras
Albert Hall

WHEN Jose Carreras was six, his parents took him to the cinema to see *The Great Caruso*, with Mario Lanza in the title role. For many days thereafter the young Jose would sing the arias, note perfect, again and again, significantly increasing the number of customers who visited his mother's hairdressing salon.

Now, in middle age and with good cause to take stock, the reborn Carreras is paying back a personal debt. His record, *With a Song In My Heart*, was his own tribute to Mario Lanza: the concerts followed, in Birmingham, Sheffield, and finally, on Tuesday, at the Albert Hall.

At the start, it looked as if the heart was exactly where the song would be staying. In an extraordinary and inexplicable botch-up, the BBC Concert Orchestra, conducted by Enrique Ricci, began to play before the star of the evening was anywhere in sight. And, after a few scrawny bars, had to give up and start all over again when Carreras appeared.

A lurid wash of satsuma light hid any blushes, and soon modulated to magenta for "Because You're Mine", which was sung, in typical Carreras style, as if every single member of the audience who wished it could, for the duration, belong to him and him alone.

The shifting colours of Carreras's tenor itself at last became apparent in Tosti's "L'ultima canzone". As its depth matched the cellos' woody resonance, so its heights floated in half-voice on the close-miked air. A song of the sea followed: the anonymous "Vieni sur mar" (I'm sure my grandfather used to sing it as "Two lovely black eyes"). The tremor of the tambourine and the sobbing of the solo violin heralded, respectively, Tosti's "Marechiare" and Gastaldon's "Musica Proibita".

After the interval Carreras went on to let fall the inevitable "furtiva lagrima". Then, in the most finely nuanced tones of the evening, eased his way into the "Lamento di Federico" from Cilea's *L'arlesiana*. This confirmed the continuing rude health of his voice.

In Christopher Palmer's "Mario Lanza Medley" it looked as if the orchestra were going to have all the best tunes. But Carreras had plenty more up his neatly-tailored sleeve. His genuine commitment to the emotional directness of the most popular melodies led him to generous performances of Romberg's "Serenade", Brodszky's "Beloved", and no less than 45 minutes' worth of rapturously received encores.

HILARY FINCH

Thirties somethings

CBSO/Rattle
Symphony Hall, Birmingham

A CURIOUS inspiration in planning brought Andrew Davis and the BBC Symphony Orchestra to Symphony Hall with a concert performance of *Lulu* only two days before Simon Rattle and the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra were due to perform a suite from the opera in the same Towards the Millennium series in the same hall. The absence of an audience at the former event was surely connected with the more convenient packaging of the latter.

It is also curious that the CBSO concert should have tacked onto it three Gershwin pieces, only one of which — the super-cool *Walking the Dog* (all three minutes of it) — represents the composer at anywhere near his best. Michael Tilson Thomas's inflated version of the unfinished *For Lily Pons* simply does not work, and the Cuban Overture, in spite of all Rattle's advocacy and the idiomatic costume of the Latin-American percussion section, is frankly uninspired. The appropriate popular 1930s piece to present after *Lulu*, bearing in mind the not unrelated erotic situation of the ballet scenario that goes with it, would have been Ravel's *Bolero*.

It was, on the other hand, a good idea to link *Lulu* with Messiaen's *Poèmes pour Mi* which, though the product of a still unformed musical personality, characteristically associates the erotic impulse with religious sentiment. Where the two overlap it offers sounds which are fascinatingly prophetic of the mature composer. It was most persuasively sung by Faye Robinson, who also represented Lulu and Geschwitz in a thoughtful interpretation of the Berg suite.

It is not likely, however, to have much of a part to play in the regular soprano-and-orchestra repertoire. The role here of Britten's *Sinfonia da Requiem* — which, as a product of 1940, might usefully have been reserved for next year's Towards the Millennium — was more dubious. For anticipations of war, why not take the opportunity to present Martinu's (solitary) masterpiece, the Double Concerto, or Bartók's Divertimento?

Perhaps the answer is that Rattle and the CBSO have not made a speciality of those works, while the *Sinfonia da Requiem* is now so well absorbed that they can take risks with it, dramatise it — even over-dramatise it — and generally make a shattering experience of it.

GERALD LARNER

ART GALLERIES

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SADLER'S WELLS 071-278 8916 Compania Nacional de Danza Prog 1 on 15, 18 & 19 March, Prog 2 on 16 & 17 March at 7.30pm. "on a par with the best dance companies in Europe" El Mundo.

THEATRES

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Samuel Beckett's strange, teasing 'dramaticule' *Footfalls* lasts just over 20 minutes. **Jeremy Kingston** makes the most of a new West End staging

Step by step through a life of torment

For one week only, Fiona Shaw is pacing the boards of this West End theatre, twice nightly, in Beckett's 20-minute play or "dramaticule", as he called his shorter theatre pieces.

"Can you be serious?" you ask, if unfamiliar with the later texts of the now late Beckett. "A 20-minute play, even if twice nightly, in the heart of London's theatreland? Entrance price £4."

And you are right to register disbelief, because *Footfalls* does not last only 20 minutes, as the pre-publicity tells us, but is a full 15 per cent longer (ie 23 mins). This still means you are back on the Charing Cross Road with a good five minutes in hand to go round the corner and catch the start of Eddie Izzard.

Journalists sometimes use the phrase "pacing the boards" in a feeble attempt to supply a more physical image than the plain "X is appearing" but in this case Fiona Shaw does pace, nine steps this way, turn, nine steps back, turn. And this, we understand, is what the character of May — "a most strange girl, though scarcely a girl anymore" — has been doing since really she was a girl. The disembodied voice of her mother (Susan Engel) tells us this. "Will you never have done . . . revolving it all?" she murmurs. "In your poor mind. It all. It all."

And on bare boards is how May needs to pace, so as to hear her feet falling.

When this play was given its British premiere, at the Royal Court in 1976, it formed part of a programme of Beckett shorts, and for a run longer than one week this must surely be the only practicable way.

At the same time, the oddity of devoting an outing to the theatre to just this one short, strange, teasing sound bite of tormented life concentrates attention in the most wonderful manner. These 23 minutes are all we will be getting, so let's get all of it we can.



DONALD COOPER

Fiona Shaw paces the boards in Beckett's 20-minute *Footfalls*: nine steps this way, turn, nine steps back

What do Beckett, Shaw, Engel and the director, Deborah Warner, offer us? Immediately, the vivid image of Shaw in a loose red frock, lumpy stockings and hard-soled shoes pacing away her life. Halting to speak to her unseen mother, halting occasionally when her mother speaks, halting to speak to us and share fragments of a life remembered.

As is to be expected of a Beckett monologue, we are tantalised by the breaks in these fragments, particularly by the account of a conversation after Evensong where something strange — that word, like "it", keeps recurring — where something strange occurred. Just as we think we might now glimpse the nub of the matter the account slips sideways, or appears to, into a dispute over the words being used.

Yet in this dispute the nub can perhaps be glimpsed, if May is revolving in her mind the puzzle of being alive. More precisely, her awareness of being alive. The play exposes fractionally further the obsession of the desperate speaker in *Not I* who could never be brought to identify herself.

Shaw uses her compelling physical technique to fix in our minds this pigeon-toed, ungainly creature, drawing on the emotional range of her voice to woo us with her story and isolate the pinpoint stabs of pain. The mid-play change in Engel's voice, in tone and even class, is intriguing, though I have not fathomed what Warner intends by this.

Quite the most striking departure Warner makes from what the text suggests is to build a narrow platform along the front row of the Dress Circle upon which Shaw spends most of her time. (Only the front rows of the Stalls are occupied.) Seeing her pace there, clutching the plaster underbelly of the Upper Circle as she turns, she is like a prisoner condemned to walk forever the plank of the pirate ship of life.

Doing time on Radio 4

The BBC is to broadcast a play that was written and recorded in Strangeways Prison, reports **Heather Neill**

On her first day at Strangeways Sue Johnston (once of *Brookside*) made a mistake. She wore a short skirt. "I had to cling to the walls. Voices came from nowhere: 'Sheila, we can see up your legs!' The next day I was dressed from nose to toes."

She was in the prison for the BBC recording of *Padmates*, a new radio play written by two inmates (both now released) and a part-time education officer, Alan Midwood. "I never felt threatened," she says. "They were so respectful, wanting to shake your hand. And I had so many offers: 'If you ever need a minder . . . '"

Padmates came about when radio producer Kate Rowland, always busy "finding new voices, new ways of telling stories", approached the education department of Strangeways and suggested playwriting classes. Before long, about eight men signed up. "The fervour got hold of everybody," Midwood says. "The first few weeks it was like a little club. News travels rapidly in prison. Everybody wanted to write a play."

The group agreed that they did not want to be patronised, that they would accept Rowland's judgment as to what was broadcastable. They took criticism well. As Rowland says: "They don't have a namby-pamby life in prison where people don't say what they mean."

Eventually, three short pieces, by Alan Midwood, Les May and John Stevens, were worked into a single play by adding linking narrative verse written by Midwood. This is spoken by a character appropriately named Porter, a warder who refers to himself wryly as "the prisoner with the keys".

Porter is worldly-wise, tough, all-seeing, familiar with the prison jargon in which "Dibble" (presumably from the television cartoon, *Top Cat*) stands for police, "midnight" means turning evidence against a colleague, "pure time" is a long sentence and "padmates" are fellow prisoners. There is rough poetry in these sections, spoken against the clash and clang of real prison doors.

The first of the short plays, "the worst" in his opinion, is by Midwood. It is about a "grass" saving his own skin. All the pieces are, from choice, about life inside and all bear some relation to real experience. According to Midwood, Porter is the only truly fictional character.

In the other two playlets, a "plant" (a copper posing as a prisoner) gains information from his cell-mate, and a boy, a comparative innocent, is ripped off by more experienced villains.

When Stevens came to classes in the first place he wanted no more than to improve his spelling. "Over the course of time I discovered I made a bit of sense when I put things together. I started writing a story which impressed Alan. Kate Rowland came into the classes and I got on to writing a play."

One difficulty for the organisers of this kind of work is the speed at which things change. Inmates come to trial, are freed, or move to other prisons. Both May and Stevens were out by the time recording took place last spring and the rules were waived to allow them to go back inside for the two relevant days.

In the event, Stevens declined and May was, in Johnston's words, "walking on glass". In the short discussion which follows the broadcast, he says, with a nervous laugh, that he was glad to see five o'clock and leave.

Nobody is left in any doubt about the effect of incarceration. All the visitors repeat their impression that losing your freedom is a serious punishment; a few hours of colour telly a day does not turn a prison into a holiday camp.

Johnston plays all the women. "Some of the action moves outside the prison walls to tell the inmates' stories." Nick Stringer, John McCardle and Pip Donaghy are among the male actors. Two relatively privileged prisoners who worked in the kitchen turned over their cell to the cast. "It's a shock when you go in," Johnston says. "It's better for them not having to slop out, but now it is like living in a toilet." But both she and Rowland were impressed by the clean and tidy state of the cell.

Nobody asked what offence anyone had committed. Sympathy can lead outsiders into the trap of sentimentality; if one of these keen writers had burgled your house you might not feel so charitable. Yet, for the moment, that is simply irrelevant.

Midwood, who speaks with considerable pride of the talent he uncovers among his students, claims a therapeutic nature to prison writing: "smackheads", especially, know they have behaved shamefully to their families and tend to confess in "fiction". But if prison stories serve a useful purpose, they can also stand beside those of writers outside the gates. *Padmates* is not perfect, sometimes it is difficult to follow, but it is strong on atmosphere and it has a gritty authenticity not often encountered in more conventional work — despite the authors' decision to moderate their language in deference to a radio audience.

Meanwhile, Stevens has enrolled on a word-processing course and is still writing. It is probably no exaggeration to say that the experience has changed his life. And Rowland is working on a new project at a women's prison.

● *Padmates is the Monday play on March 21, Radio 4, 7.45pm*



Pip Donaghy (top) is West and Vinny Davies is Paterson in *Padmates*. The play is the product of workshops with the education department of HM Prison Strangeways

THEATRE: Tragi-comedy in the Bronx

Home is where the heart aches

Awake & Sing!
Birmingham Rep

Clifford Odets was the Chekhov of the Jewish Bronx during the Great Depression. *Awake & Sing!*, his domestic tragi-comedy with its domineering mother, frustrated grown children, feeble husbands and claustrophobically seething tensions, interlaces sorrows with careless song; suicidal despair and failed lives with hopes of flying off or working one's way to a better future; petit bourgeois values with murmurs of a great social revolution.

Bill Alexander's production gives this family drama epic scale. Perhaps it could be objected that the Bergers' apartment is in fact a little too airy. But Nettie Edwards's fine multi-roomed design, with its parquet floor and its carved door-frames set amid stained wallpaper skilfully suggests that this immigrant family has put everything into not being poor. This makes sense of Bessie's obsession with respectability, which forces her pregnant daughter, Hennie, into marriage and ruins her son, Ralph's first love.



Clifford Odets: the Chekhov of the Jewish Bronx in the Depression

The walls, ripped away, open on to the street (flashing neon, fire escapes, the sound of sirens and honking cars) bringing home the world outside: the threat of shelterless poverty or the chance of escape. Is the scaffolding a brace against structural collapse or a sign of some new construction? A mighty stone head is bearing down on New York, like the Statue of Liberty transmogrified into some avenging Communist angel.

Helped by intimate lighting, the characters are never dwarfed by the set. Harry Landis is wonderfully warm as old Jacob, charging Marxism with passion and cuddling his grandchildren through crises. Corey Johnson has chillingly vicious flashes, as if Moe Axelrod is a human flick-knife, and Daniel Isaacs makes an impressive professional debut as Ralph, although these two both have trouble with Odets's rather gauche romantic and politicised closing speeches.

John McAndrew's Sam is as sympathetic as he is ridiculous and wimpish, and June Brown, best at being comic, portrays Bessie as a mother with a soul of steel but of skeletal frailty.

The cast could probably do with another week to fine tune their performances, and they might hint more clearly at their characters' private blues. Myron may be ineffective, yet Joe Melia still needs to find his psychological spine. Billy J. Mitchell cannot swagger as rich Uncle Morty before he is sure of his lines. When the production settles, if it aims to be hard-hitting and does not relax into sentimentality, Odets's vibrantly idiomatic and politically pertinent play should be well worth catching.

KATE BASSETT

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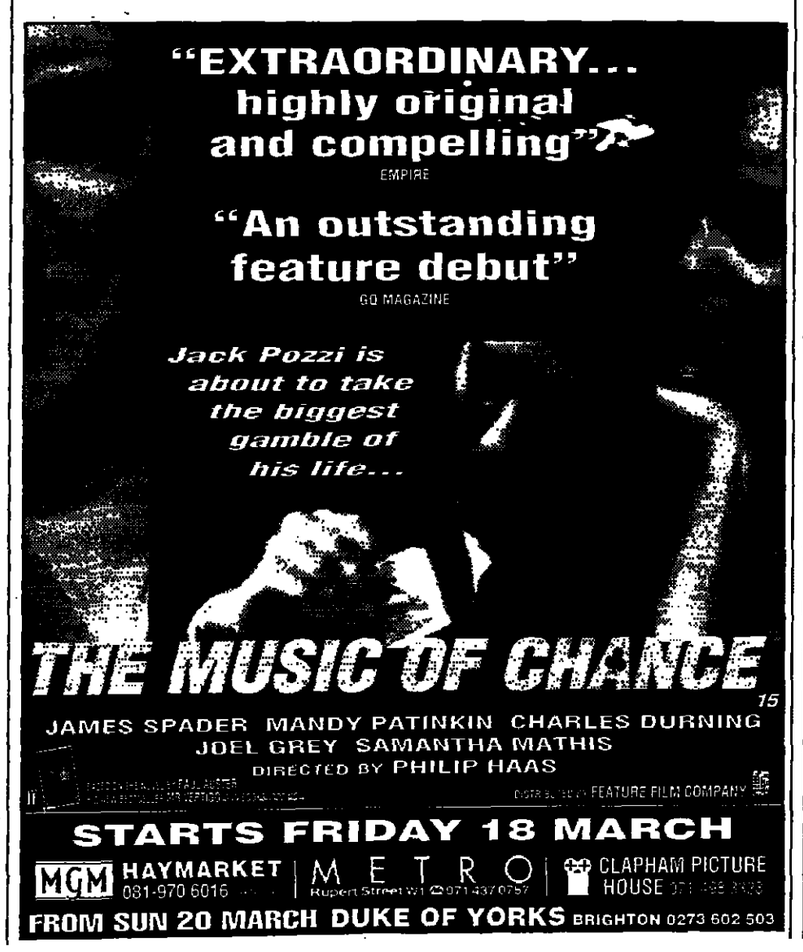
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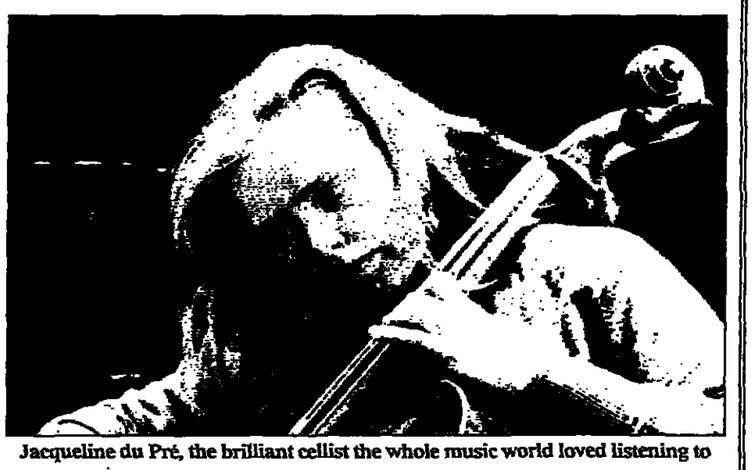
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Jacqueline du Pré, the brilliant cellist the whole music world loved listening to

Win a gala night out

As a tribute to the great cellist, and as part of an appeal to fund the Jacqueline du Pré Memorial Music Building, a gala evening is being held at Claridges, London, on April 14.

There will be a champagne reception and a glittering candlelit dinner. A musical tribute to the world-famous artist, who died of multiple sclerosis in October 1987, at the age of 42, will be performed by the cellists Maud Tortelier, Geneviève Teulières and Raphaël Sommer.

The normal cost of a ticket to what will be a memorable and heartwarming occasion

☐ Champagne reception

☐ A candlelit dinner with a musical tribute

for all music lovers is £125, but today *The Times* is offering two free invitations to readers.

To receive a pair of tickets, all you have to do is answer the five questions on the right and phone them in before midnight on Monday, March 21. The winner will be chosen at random.

● The Jacqueline du Pré Memorial Music Building will be at St Hilda's College, Oxford, where she was an honorary fellow, and be a focus of musical activity for, among others, students, visiting professionals and summer schools. It will accommodate orchestras of up to 30 players and have practice rooms and a recording room.

● If you wish to make a donation, please send a cheque, made payable to "Du Pré Building Fund Ltd", to: Dr Paul Salmon, 88 Harley Street, London W1N 1AE (Tel: 071-486 7939. Fax: 071-224 0645).

QUESTIONS

1 *How old was Du Pré at her Wigmore Hall debut?*
2 *Who was her principal teacher?*
3 *Who did she marry?*
4 *Which cello concerto did she record twice, once with her husband conducting?*
5 *Who conducted the other recording of that work?*

When you think you have solved the questions . . .

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Peter Ackroyd on a life of John Steinbeck, the Californian visionary whose *Grapes of Wrath* has encouraged a host of imitators

Trampling out the Lord's vintage

JOHN STEINBECK
A Biography
By Jay Parini
Heinemann, £20

It is a rare thing, these days, to encounter the novelist as visionary; but, in this absorbing biography, John Steinbeck emerges beside Dickens and Tolstoy as a great celebrator of what Jay Parini calls "the mythos" behind the bewildering patterns of human behaviour.

This may seem an odd description for the author of *The Grapes of Wrath*, the demotic of which has encouraged a host of imitators down even to the depths of "dirty realism", but Steinbeck was wise enough to note that realistic fiction was "a dead end for the novel". This did not please the "committed" literary critics of the period, who promptly began to call him sentimental, and the fact of Steinbeck's immense popularity did not endear him to the more intellectual newspaper reviewers. But he could never be ignored — he was a phenomenon, a literary figure imbued with the kind of wisdom which seems available only within a certain kind of American populist tradition, which has its roots in Emerson and Whitman.

He was an unlikely populist, perhaps, because he came from a middle-class family in California at the turn of the century — his father was a nervous and depressive county treasurer, and his mother was one of those domineering public-spirited women who flourish in small towns. But he came from a line of farmers (originally of Northern Irish extraction), and all his life he seemed to think of himself as a practical man of the earth; as Parini remarks, he "remained to the end profoundly innocent".

He was also an extraordinarily sensitive and somewhat tortured young man. He was enrolled at Stanford University, but he drank too much and read the wrong books. Of course that is often the beginning of wisdom; and when, as a university "drop-out", he became a ranch hand and labourer, he hit by chance or instinct upon the landscape and the characters which he would later immortalise. Over the next few years, in fact, he earned his living by manual labour of various kinds — no novelist has had so long and arduous an apprenticeship since Joseph Conrad.

It was a period when, according to Parini, "fiction had become an heroic profession", and in the mid-1920s Steinbeck tried hard to become his own hero. He entertained romantic fantasies about himself; he lived in squalor because it was considered, in the idiom of the time, "bohemian"; he endured profound solitude with almost masochistic relish; he continued to drink too much; he had fits of great violence and despair.

Yet all the time he thought only of his writing and of his future fame; he was one of those novelists who are quite without self-knowledge, and so he was able to grab at the various personae he adopted in order to turn them into the materials of his fiction. He was also self-confident — even at the time when his first books were unsuccessful, he told a friend: "Eventually, I shall be so good that I cannot be ignored. These years are disciplinary for me".


Steinbeck: man of the earth

In the end he found his great theme and, as so often in the work of genius, it lay in the visionary exploration of his native soil. He remained interested all of his life in the relationship of the individual to the larger forces of the world. He saw it partly in the context of marine biology which, outside literature, was his enduring passion; did human beings somehow move together, like a shoal of fish? If there is indeed some common consciousness, then Steinbeck's work suggests that it may be found in the peculiar hold which place or territory can have over its inhabitants. That is why he became the writer of Monterey, and northern California; he turned the Salinas Valley into his own visionary landscape: "I can see how I would like to do it so that it would be the valley of the world."

Tortilla Flat was his fourth published work of fiction (he was writing short stories as well as novels), but it was his first public success. It was followed by *Of Mice and Men*, and then Steinbeck became famous. After that he completed *The Grapes of Wrath* and, as Parini suggests, found himself on "the road to canonisation". He wrote that novel in six months and the diary which he kept during the course of its composition is one of the most illuminating and truthful accounts of the creative process. He managed to write 27 books in 30 years — this may seem a case of overproduction by late 20th-century standards, when a slim novel every three or four years is considered more respectable, but Steinbeck was a professional.

There were problems of the usual kind. His first marriage failed after many years, and his second attempt with a much younger woman was a disaster. More importantly, perhaps, he left California and, in doing so, abandoned the very source and origin of his work. The novels which immediately followed *The Grapes of Wrath*, composed while he was living in New York, comprised nothing but what he called "bits and pieces". It is striking that he only achieved another substantial work of fiction, *East of Eden*, when he returned in his imagination to his native soil. He was often accused of using the same material too often, but the flop-houses, the groceries and the vacant lots of northern California were the components of his vision which could not be exorcised.

By the time he reached his fifties, he had become a smiling public man, while all the time tormented by private insecurities about his work and his health; he had seen his own mortality even in the process of being immortalised, but managed to find comfort in a third and loving wife. He was awarded the Nobel Prize, but, for once, that prize was not a funereal wreath; he remained a dedicated, almost obsessive, writer and in his mid-sixties he went to Vietnam as a war correspondent for *Newsday*. He was, in that sense, always moving forward. He was one of those Americans who retain a rare innocence and simplicity — a large and awkward man who tried to embody the conscience of his race. Those same qualities are part of his fiction, too, and they are plainly in evidence within this biography since, as Steinbeck himself declared, "a novel may be said to be the man who writes it."

Ben Macintyre's interview with Steinbeck's widow, Elaine, will appear in this Saturday's Weekend Times.

Stalky and the story factory

ROALD DAHL
A Biography
By Jeremy Treglown
Faber, £17.50

Ian McIntyre

Walt Disney called him Stalky because he was 6'6" tall and admired Kipling. Isaiah Berlin thought him extremely conceited. His first wife, the actress Patricia Neal, said that he looked like Virginia Woolf in drag. "He sort of radiated power," said his one-time publisher, Rayner Unwin: "I'm glad he didn't go into politics."

"Almost anything you could say about him would be true," a family friend told Jeremy Treglown. "It depended on which side he decided to show you." It is therefore entirely possible to present Roald Dahl as a war hero, a connoisseur, a philanthropist and a devoted *père de famille*; it can as easily be demonstrated that he was a fantasist, an anti-Semite, a bully and a self-publicising troublemaker.

His first attempt at a novel was a pacifist fantasy about nuclear war. For many years he had difficulty in finding an English publisher for his children's books; Hamish Hamilton dismissed them as adult stories in disguise. The initial Chinese print run for *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* was 2 million; by the end of his life one British child in three bought or was given a book by Dahl each year.

Much of his family life was a nightmare. His son suffered brain damage in an accident; one daughter died of measles, two others became addicted to drugs; Patricia Neal was disabled by a succession of strokes. That she recovered to the extent she did was due in large measure to Dahl's ferocious determination that she should, but not everyone approved of the way he set about it. One onlooker described his behaviour as "somewhere between that of a dog trainer and a traffic cop." Treglown writes that his character makes better sense if he is thought of "not as a writer but as a capricious tycoon".

The central appeal of his books lies in their wild incorrectness. He was subversive, he was cruel, he was hedonistic. Somebody said that he had the mind of a "slightly naughty 11-year-old genius"; for *slightly naughty*, read *delinquent*.

He understood the positive delight of the young in what is terrifying, or macabre or in bad taste. In *George's Marvellous Medicine* he describes the grandmother's mouth as "puckered up like a dog's bottom". Treglown is appalled and talks of "frank ageism", but in a court of appeal, where the judges have names like La Fontaine and Gogol and Robert Burns, I can see such a verdict being overturned as prissy. Dahl was, as his best critics detected, an intensely honest writer. "*The Witches*", wrote Erica Jong, "deals with matters of crucial importance to children: smallness, the existence of evil in the world, mourning, separation, death."

Treglown is very interesting on Dahl's relations with his publishers, particularly those in the United States. He was unreceptive to the idea of publishing as a collaborative enterprise. When the Knopf publicity department asked, as he thought once too often, for material for a potted biography, his idea of being helpful was to tell them that he had previously run the harem of an Arab sheikh. Eventually, in the early 1980s, Knopf's president and editor-in-chief decided that enough was enough and that it was time to activate what he described as the "F*** you" Principle. "In brief," he wrote, "and as unemotionally as I can state it . . . you have behaved to us in a way I can honestly say is unmatched in my experience for overbearingness and utter lack of civility."

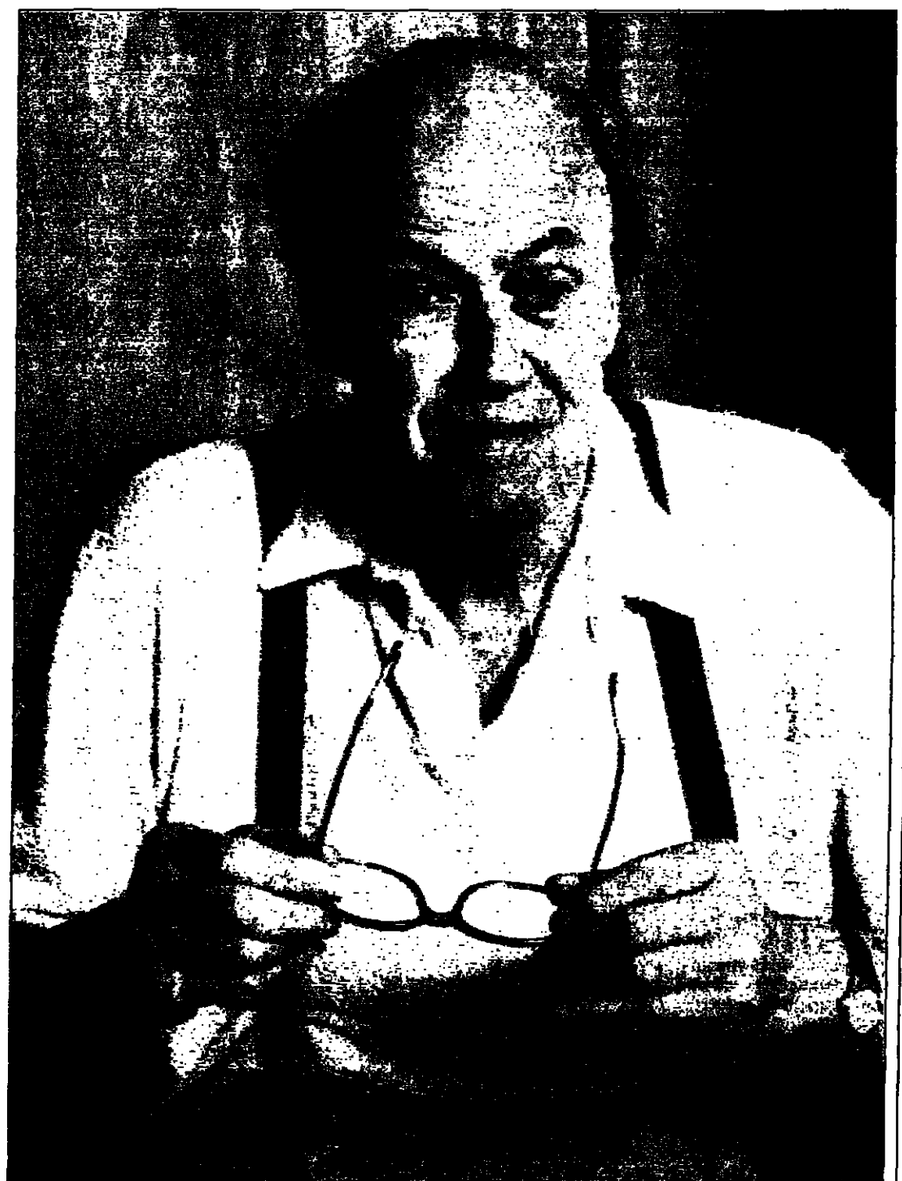
Current biographical fashion favours weight, length and spelling everything out. Jeremy Treglown very properly believes, as did his subject, that it is no part of a writer's business to diminish the role of his readers. He has not said the last word on this shambling Nordic Pied Piper, but he offers us, in this controlled and understated assessment, a perceptive and essentially generous study of him.

He tells us that when he began it, he went to the hillside at Great Missenden where Dahl lies buried: "On it were a few, small, rather dilapidated toys — a plastic parrot, a teddy bear, a broken jack-in-the-box in the form of an egg." The neighbouring plots were bright with gladioli and chrysanthemums, but on Dahl's grave there grew only a large onion — "handsome, tough-skinned, many-layered". This, we are told, was "a specimen of his favourite vegetable". I'm sure it was, but if Treglown is looking over his text before it goes into paperback there is a more intriguing possibility which he might wish to consider.

He points on several occasions to the debt Dahl owed to Norwegian folk literature — the encounters between children, ogres and royal personages, the frequency with which his tales are set in magical underworlds. Curiously, he does not once mention the name of Henrik Ibsen, and yet many of the characteristics he identifies in Dahl are strikingly similar to those of one of Ibsen's most celebrated creations — the charming, sensual, restless, tall-story-telling Peer Gynt.

In the last act of Ibsen's poetic drama Peer is discovered in a clearing in a great forest — grubbing up wild onions. He takes one and peels it, bleakly stripping away as he does so successively layers of his own personality. "Are we never coming to the kernel?" he cries. "It's nothing but layers, smaller and smaller. Nature's a joker!"

Ian McIntyre is writing a biography of Robert Burns.


Dahl: intensely honest in his work, but best thought of "not as a writer but as a capricious tycoon"

Love is a joking matter

COME TO ME
By Amy Bloom
Macmillan, £8.99 pbk original
NOW THAT YOU'RE BACK
By A. L. Kennedy
Cape, £8.99 pbk original

Katherine Bergen

IF AMY Bloom is as good a psychotherapist as she is a short story writer, her patients should think themselves lucky. This début collection, human and humorous, is an impressive display. Bloom has the ability to get inside the heads of her subjects, but she shows none of the clinical detatchment of her daytime profession.

In "Love Is Not A Pie", Ellen's parents and Mr DeCuerco enjoy a joyous *ménage à trois*. Ellen has already discovered this as a young girl but when her mother dies she has trouble coming to terms with it. At her funeral however, the two men mourn the woman they both loved with supportive and totally unselfconscious emotion.

Many of Bloom's characters find themselves in bizarre situations. In "Sleep Walking", when Julia's husband dies, she ends up making love with her teenage stepson. But Bloom is uncensorious, revelling in the predicaments she has created for her protagonists and their instinct for survival.

She has great flexibility of narrative voice, whether as a middle-aged furrier in love with a schoolgirl or as a young boy who accidentally shoots his cousin with his father's gun. The themes of Jewishness and psychiatry weave in and out, but these are above all love stories. I would feel comfortable on Amy Bloom's couch.

A.L. KENNEDY returns with the aptly named *Now That You're Back*, her first collection of short stories. She lends herself as effectively to this medium as she did to the novel in *Looking For The Possible Dance*. If one of her themes is the painful comedy of life, she is never better than when she is being truly comic. In "On Having More Sense", a guru advises his disciples, with a nice degree of sententiousness, on following the example of the penguin in life. "It is not a matter of chance that no city has ever been besieged by penguins, that no international incident has ever been ignited by penguins, that no glistering genocidal design has ever been pursued by penguins. Remember this maxim on all occasions. Penguins Have More Sense."

If Kennedy's penguins are entirely sensible, the Mouseboks in "The Mouseboks' Family Dictionary" are a mad and mordant lot. They selected their curious name in a "never-repeated moment of unanimity brought on by group shock", and they cross-refer *Life* in their dictionary with *Bad Joke* and *What You Deserve*. Marriage for the Mouseboks is "a kind of bedroom ceasefire without the benefit of UN peacekeeping forces. See *Fear of Psychiatrists, Money, Murder, Odd Noises* and *Sex*." Perhaps they would benefit from a session on Amy Bloom's couch.

Better than powdered egg

LAND GIRLS
By Angela Huth
Sinclair-Stevenson, £14.99

Lucy Hughes-Hallett

WAR MEANS shortages: of chocolate, of dried fruit, of security and of eligible men. Angela Huth's entertaining romantic novel has three heroines but only one hero, the asthmatic Joe, who serves the young women one by one, in the capacities variously of tumble in the hay (awfully bad for his chest), sexual initiator and only true love.

The novel's narrative structure is as simple and sound as a well-constructed haystack. It is 1941, Prue, Ag and Stella come from widely disparate homes (conveyed by the shorthand of a few details — pink towelling-wrapped bathroom fittings for Prue's working-class gentility, "the nursery" for Stella's cosseted poshness, Ag's real name — Agapanthus — for her unworldly academic origins). The fortunes of war bring them as land girls to a west country farm where they are gradually but significantly altered by contact with the farmer's family and each other, by hard work, and not least by Joe himself.

Huth's fictional world is solidly material and evidently thoroughly researched. Almost as much space is given to the land girls' work as to their love affairs. She is good on the difficulties and satisfactions of hedging, ploughing and dagging sheep. Her descriptions of landscape and weather are evocatively precise. Her account of the girls' diary lives is full of minutiae which, because they feel accurate, give her narrative a charge of amused nostalgia and of vitality. The "butterscotch shape" Stella refuses on the night she loses her virginity, Prue's devotion to Drene shampoo and her fidelity in removing mascara and applying face cream before going to bed, the oilcloth on cafe tables, the solemnity attached to listening to the radio news, all build a pleasingly substantial impression of a particular historical moment.


Huth: evocative and precise

The inhabitants of this skilfully created setting seem oddly vague by comparison with it. The farmer and his wife are types of rustic virtue so perfect as to be virtually inanimate. They are gruff, hard-working, honourable, firm but fair. The three young women are given copious inner lives. We know all about their fantasies and fears, their acknowledged loves and acknowledged stirrings of desire. They are likeable enough to engage a reader's sympathy. Yet they never cease to be what they initially appear, characters drawn from stock: the coquette, the bluestocking, the dreamy romantic.

The most arresting and emotionally potent part of the narrative concerns the subsidiary character of Ratty, the semi-retired labourer, and his insane wife. The depiction of their wretched marriage is absurd and terrible, a strikingly successful tragi-comic invention which throws into relief the relative insipidity of the main plot. As so often in even the best romantic comedy, so here, a rude mechanical appearing in the margin of the story is more originally conceived and his predicament more affecting than the love story at the centre.

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Are you standing up uncomfortably?

BACK TROUBLE
By Clare Chambers
André Deutsch, £13.99

Philip Howard

There is something archetypically funny about back trouble, particularly other people's back trouble. As soon as anyone keels over rigid in agony and cannot move, the world around suddenly fills with amateur experts wishing to cheer him up with stories about how much more excruciating and serious their own back troubles were, and how magical are their cures by everything from acupuncture to strapping hot water bottles around the lumbar ache and even dangling rotating talismans above the aching place. Bad backs are sad old jokes that may go back to Neanderthal man's decision to put his back at risk by standing up to walk.

In this funny but also truthful and sometimes melancholy novel, *bad backs* bring matters to a head. Philip's life so far has erred on the side of inertia, but now, with urban *Angst*, the bloodiness of Sunday *night and the approach of the new* year, it has reached its lowest ebb. He is approaching 40 with not much to show for it, and his business of publishing self-improvement manuals has collapsed in the recession. His girlfriend is going back to New Zealand, because her job has run out, but also, one infers, because their relationship is stuck. Then one evening in a street in south London, Philip slips on a discarded chip and dislocates his back. Now he is physically as well as spiritually stuck, immobile on his back on the floor for months, with nothing to do all day but hear the bailiffs hammering at the door.

So he takes up biro, and starts the novel he has always talked of writing. Like most first novels, Philip's is autobiographical, and much concerned with the troubles of his mother and father, who have been long separated and did not seem to have a lot of fun when they were together. In chapters alternating between Philip's past recalled in his novel and his problematic present, he explores the troubles which have made him the mess he is today.

Chambers is sharp on the unexpressed love and irritation of relationships between sons and their old dads, and the long dark days of filial embarrassment. She sends men and boys up mercilessly and hilariously, but she must like them to understand them so well. Father is a television-addict and collector of bargain rubbish now living in Brighton, hypochondriac and selfish. Mother is scatty and sentimental, and embarrassed about her new, equally unsatisfactory partner.

Back Trouble sets out as a comedy of manners, funny about the absurdity of seaside holidays, the awkwardness of funerals, the fecklessness of male housekeeping, the bad behaviour of household pets, and the little difficulties of family living. And, of course, the intolerable hilarity of bad backs. But then jolts of real pain and *surprising dénouements* disturb the book's comic course, and a pattern emerges from and through Philip's back trouble in both senses of the phrase.

This is not just contemporary knock-about comedy about battered relationships. It also deals with universal themes as old even as bad backs: man's lifelong search for his lost father, and the other one about the course of true love never running smooth. What started as simple giggles, turns out to have a profound side. The 40-year-old child eventually finds within himself the father he has always been looking for. Life, like a bad back, is not altogether a joke. But that is a good way to treat both of them. This is a funny book which slips in some acute and painful observations on the side, and has a gratifyingly happy ending, in parts. Most backs get better. Most lives have light as well as dark places. You'd better believe it.

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Socialist, scholar and gentleman

Woodrow Wyatt praises a life of Michael Foot, a remarkable orator and a politician of rare integrity



BRIAN HARRIS

Michael Foot with his dog, Dizzy, on Hampstead Heath while Labour Leader in 1983. His dress sense at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday was controversial

MICHAEL FOOT
By Mervyn Jones
Gollancz, £20

There is joy and sadness, romance and bewitching nostalgia, success and disappointment, and lasting happiness triumphing over intermittent personal tragedies in this absorbing book. The extent to which the author has had access to personal and hitherto confidential letters and papers makes his delightfully assembled work almost an autobiography of its subject. Everyone who has known Michael Foot well has deep affection for him. Though, like all politicians, he has his share of vanity, he has a noble soul which runs with it, felt even by the victims of his sharp wit and incisive invective.

Michael Foot was nurtured in a brilliant, cohesive and loving family. They were surrounded by piles of books on the stairs and in every room, bought by his staunchly Liberal father, the celebrated Isaac Foot, as an alcoholic buys drink. When Michael's mother wrote letters to the *Western Morning News* signed "Mother of Seven", everyone in Plymouth knew it was her. Michael was the fifth child. The five boys went to Oxford or Cambridge but the girls, properly in their mother's view, did not. When Michael became a socialist his saddened mother remarked: "I think he is grievously mistaken but I believe he is entirely honest and sincere." His inherited genes were responsible for his outstanding talents, giving him a distinctly un-socialist advantage over some 95 per cent of the population.

The divinely beautiful Jill Craigie came from a home of discord and division, which unsettled her emotions but not her stylish gift for film making. She had been unhappily married twice before she met the 1945 Labour candidate for Devonport, while she was making a documentary about nearby bombed-out Plymouth. Instantly she fell in love with him. A close-up in her film showed a ballot paper being marked with the name, Foot. It was a love letter. But Michael was crazily in love with an American, Connie Ernst, who fortunately rejected him from contempt for the declining British: the course of true love began to run smooth and never stopped.

Living together unmarried was still frowned on in the Labour Party. When Jill became pregnant she had an abortion, which she regretted after her marriage when she was unable to conceive again. But Michael — highly attractive to intelligent women, despite or because of his eczema and asthma, which induced strong 'maternal feelings — was always her child, though at times a fractious one.

Michael's main political achievement was to demonstrate (unwittingly, of course) that the socialism he urged so passionately was an impractical dream and the judgments associated with it were almost invariably wrong, with the partial exception of *Guilty Men*, written with Frank Owen and Peter Howard in the summer after Dunkirk. As the war closed, Michael hurled abuse at Churchill for using British troops to suppress the Greek communists. But if they had won, Italy could have well gone communist, too, and in both countries the free speech and parliamentary democracy Michael treasures would have been suppressed, plus the usual imprisonment and torture under communism.

With uncharacteristic bitterness Michael ruthlessly attacked his hero, Nye Bevan. That was after Nye, speaking against the removal of our nuclear defences at the famous Scarborough Labour conference, had said: "You will send a Foreign Secretary whoever he may be naked into the conference chamber." There was a total breach between the two. Nye's wife, Jenny Lee, asserted that he would have survived his cancer but for Michael and the unilateral disarmers. "He did not die, he was murdered." If we had not kept our deterrent, the crippling effects on the Soviet economy of trying to keep up would not have brought the collapse of Russian communism.

Or take Michael's gullible acceptance of the evil Krishna Menon's myth that India, led by Congress, had to struggle for independence. It was there for the asking since the Government of India Act of 1935. India would have stayed united had it not been for Menon, Gandhi and Congress refusing to accept that Jinnah accurately represented all but a handful of Muslims.

Michael was a devotee of subsidised nationalisation. He listened sympathetically to me in the Commons when I warned the Labour Government that nationalising steel would be a disaster. But he attacked me strongly for preventing it, with the aid of Desmond Donnelly and the Liberals, for the whole of the 1964-66 parliament. When Michael was Employment Secretary he adopted an amazingly anti-libertarian stance in foisting a union closed shop on journalists — the antithesis of all he had ever said or thought about free speech.

His reference to the "terrible Thatcherite years" during the 1992 election showed how far out of touch with ordinary people he had always been, and why it was impossible for him and like-minded socialists to lead Labour to victory in the 1983 election. At the start of that campaign the Tories foully depicted him as a doddery old man and only desisted when I protested at the highest levels.

A political failure, Michael is a shining light in literature. He writes with elegance and grace. He has illumined Swift as no one else has. Naturally he was an admirer of Byron, similarly naive in politics, though right to champion the Greeks against the Turks. Another of Michael's heroes is William Hazlitt, causing Michael one of his frequent dilemmas. Hazlitt and Byron loathed each other. Michael's solution is to wish they had met: "By a miserable intervention of fate they were always finding themselves at cross purposes."

Michael's life has been lived, as his mother always thought it would be, in complete sincerity and honesty. I knew Beaverbrook and all about his relations with Michael (and later with Jill), to whom he was generous. I can vouch that Beaverbrook never sought to influence Michael to say anything he did not believe. Michael Foot was and is a "seagreen incorruptible", however mistaken he may have often been. May he live long and write more to enchant us.

Telling us all about the war

William Tuohy

LIVE FROM THE BATTLEFIELD
By Peter Arnett
Bloomsbury, £17.99

WHEN Peter Arnett joined the news staff of the Associated Press in Saigon in 1962, he was unaware he would be among those who first changed the nature of the relationship between foreign correspondents and American officials. Since then, things have never been the same.

Until America's creeping involvement in Vietnam, US correspondents usually reflected the views of Washington's military and diplomatic policymakers. Reporters were often close friends of senior officials and had spent years together tending the 'same patch. While a report during the Second World War might argue tactics or even strategy, everyone was on the same team. The same could be said about both American and British correspondents covering the Korean War.

In Vietnam, the cosy, traditional relationship changed. Washington officialdom sharply disagreed with reports from correspondents in the field — and said so, attempting to intimidate their editors in New York and Washington. Partly this was because the new breed of young reporters, like New Zealand-born Arnett, did not necessarily accept the received wisdom from the White House or US military headquarters in Saigon. And partly it was because assessments of military progress, or lack of it, in Vietnam were difficult.

In the Second World War or in Korea, a senior commander would tell attached correspondents that troops would attack a specific hill, river-line or town in the next few days to take that particular piece of terrain. If won, this would mean a victory. But in Vietnam, terrain was taken or held at great cost — and a *month* or six *months* later abandoned. How could progress be charted? The American command invented the "body count" — the number of Viet Cong soldiers found dead in an action. Not estimates. Bodies. Anyone assigned to cover fighting troops knew this was nonsense. Platoon commanders under fire had no time to count enemy bodies. Besides, the Viet Cong were diligent in retrieving their dead.

And so the rot set in. American briefers from Saigon to Washington issued statistics noone believed, particularly reporters who often had seen the contrary in the field. It was left to journalists like Arnett in the Saigon press corps to record the facts as actually seen — to the fury and frustration of Presidents Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon, and Generals Harkins, Westmoreland and Wheeler. The credibility gap that opened in Vietnam has never been closed: witness the Pentagon's news management in Grenada, Panama and the Gulf.

In *Live From the Battlefield*, Arnett's excellent memoir of 35 years as a front-line reporter, he tells his story lucidly. His descriptions of combat are gripping — as are his accounts of his running battle with American officials who tried to disparage his reporting (sometimes on the grounds that he was a foreigner, and therefore a communist sympathiser). Arnett *sums* up: "The truth was to be found in the battlefield and not in the briefing rooms."



Arnett: part of the story

AFTER AN unparalleled career in news agency journalism, Arnett switched in 1981 to the fledgling television news network CNN, which in its early threadbare days was scathingly referred to by the major networks as "chicken noodle news". But CNN was less interested in the appearance of blow-dried speech school glamour correspondents than in their journalistic ability. Arnett soon mastered the new medium and reported in war zones from Central America to central Asia.

I was with him in Jerusalem in January, 1991, covering the Israeli side of the Gulf War, when he told me he had been asked to go to Baghdad because of a shortage of CNN volunteers — as the January 15 deadline for military action approached. "My girlfriend thinks I'm crazy," he said. "But what the hell, that's where the story is." The rest, as they say, is TV history.

Reporting from Baghdad, Peter Arnett became a journalistic household name, in his words, "a part of the story", though he didn't relish this. His exclusive reports from the Iraqi capital were required watching, from government leaders to couch potatoes. They were often controversial, since his accounts, admittedly under censorship, differed from the official Allied (read American) view. He reported that air strikes on targets called military by the Pentagon — a "baby milk factory" and a suburban "command centre" — appeared to produce mainly civilian casualties.

Arnett was one of the first to describe from the scene what we all now know: that the newest, most sophisticated weapons — despite what Pentagon and Whitehall briefers told the world's media — sometimes went awry, killing civilians and friendly troops. The CNN star was criticised by the BBC's normally equable John Simpson for being too easy on the Iraqis — in return for CNN's being allowed alone to remain in Baghdad. In his book, Arnett's side of the dispute seems convincing.

I once asked *The Daily Telegraph*'s editor Max Hastings why he refused to allow a correspondent to remain in Baghdad for the hostilities — since, when he so brilliantly covered the Falklands War, British journalists reported from Argentina. He replied there was too much chance of being manipulated by the Saddam Hussein regime. An editor wouldn't, he suggested, have allowed an Allied correspondent to stay in Berlin during the world war, would he? My view is that certainly an editor would want a reporter in the middle of the enemy camp if possible. Particularly if he were the calibre of Peter Arnett. Better to have a trustworthy professional on the scene than to be offered nothing but rank propaganda.

These days, many senior journalists prefer to become analysts, commentators or interpreters of the news. This seems to have more standing or prestige. But how can you analyse, comment, or interpret without knowing what the news is — without the likes of Peter Arnett reporting on what is really going on at the sharp end of events?

William Tuohy, a European reporter for the Los Angeles Times, *has been a foreign correspondent for 30 years. He won a Pulitzer Prize for his reporting from Vietnam.*

On Monday two reviews were garbled. Apologies to the authors, Phil Janes and Michael Swanwick, and to Tom Hutchinson.

The glory of Europe extinguished

Daniel Johnson

BOSNIA
A Short History
By Noel Malcolm
Macmillan, £17.50
or £9.99 paperback

Among the generation now in their mid-thirties, Noel Malcolm stands out as the journalist with not only the most rigorous but also the most capacious mind. A polyglot, fluent in some 14 languages including most Balkan tongues, he is also a musicologist, a fine viola player, editor of the OUP's definitive edition of Hobbes's works, and an expert on 17th-century theology. While a Cambridge don in his early twenties he taught and lectured on English, history and philosophy with equal distinction; he is now a weekly columnist and book reviewer.

Malcolm's interest in Yugoslavia long predated its collapse in 1991 — he once wrote a monograph about a Renaissance archbishop of Spalato (Split) — but since the Bosnian war began in 1992 he has been that nation's doughtiest champion in the British press, and the scourge of Douglas Hurd, whom he accuses of a pernicious ignorance about Bosnia's past. He discovered that there was no history of Bosnia that he could recommend to politicians. So he has written one.

Despite its author's passionate convictions, this *Short History* is scrupulously impartial, presenting the evidence on which he has based his opposition to a Polish solution: partition imposed by the great powers. The book had to be short — 250 pages plus notes — and, if it was to make any difference, time was also short. Unable to work in Bosnia's own archives, Malcolm has nevertheless absorbed an astonishing mass of material in western libraries. He enables the reader to follow the rise and fall of Europe's most remarkable medley of Slavic and Turkish, Christian and Muslim, Latin and Oriental.

Bosnia's absence from the map as an independent state, from the Ottoman conquest in 1463 to its recognition by the UN in 1992, has caused its history to be neglected by neighbours and perverted by propagandists. Scholars have studied Bosnia as a part of the history of Rome, Byzantium, the medieval Serbian and Hungarian kingdoms, the Ottoman and Habsburg empires and of Yugoslavia; rarely have the continuities of Bosnian social and cultural life been studied for their own sake.

That task will be even harder in the future. Since 1992, hundreds of mosques and irreplaceable collections of manuscripts at Sarajevo's libraries have been deliberately destroyed. As Malcolm points out in an understated but devastating introduction, the Serbs "are not only ruining the future of that country: they are also making systematic efforts to eliminate its past".

The Illyrians, contemporaries of the Romans and the first inhabitants of Bosnia of whom we know anything, have passed on the use of tattoos down to the present, but they have as few links with the modern population as the ancient Britons do with us. Both Serbian and Croatian historians have laid claim to the various waves of migrants who settled in Bosnia during the dark ages — Goths, Huns, Alans, Avars, and of course the Slavs, who predominated. Malcolm shows how improbable most of these self-serving theories are: "All that one can sensibly say about the ethnic identity of the Bosnians is this: they were the Slavs who settled in Bosnia." On the Bosnian Serbs' claims to a separate identity, based on their supposed descent from the nomadic Vlachs, he comments that "there is little sense today in saying that the Bosnian Serbs are 'really' Vlachs . . . to call someone a Serb today is to use a concept constructed in the 19th and 20th centuries . . ."

Malcolm is even-handed in his criticism of partisan interpretations. He devotes much of his chapter on the medieval Bosnian church to refuting the thesis, popular with Bosnian Muslims, that this remote and rustic church was a heretical Bogomil sect; this is in turn used to explain the rapid Islamicisation of Bosnia under the Ottomans. He shows how the Bosnian church sided with Rome in the great schism of the 11th century, but became isolated from Catholic jurisdiction and continued to share its monastic structure, calendar and perhaps liturgy with Eastern Orthodoxy.

Medieval Bosnia was constantly obliged to play off its larger neighbours against one another, but before it was conquered along with the rest of the Balkans by the Ottomans, "Bosnia had achieved real prosperity". Bosnia may have been a backwater, "but it was a backwater into which some of the tides of European culture did flow".

The Ottoman period from 1463 to 1878 is fascinating: a rich courtly culture flourished under Islamic toleration, but from the 17th century there was also economic stagnation and administrative sclerosis. Malcolm does not depict it as a golden age, but he treats the wide latitude which the Ottoman authorities generally allowed to Bosnia with respect. He is illuminating on the rise of Serbian nationalism: by 1849, the significantly-named Serbian intellectual Vuk Karadzic (a sort of Bosnian Grimm) was arguing that the inhabitants of Bosnia and Dalmatia were ethnic Serbs, who should be reunited with the newly autonomous Serbian state.



Sarajevo in 1923: minaret and campanile side by side

Any account of 20th-century Bosnia demands careful handling. Malcolm shows great wisdom in sketching in enough of the Balkan background to explain the specifically Bosnian predicament under the Austro-Hungarian and Yugoslav monarchies, fascist occupation, the civil war between Chetniks and Partisans, and Tito's postwar federation. It was always a balancing act, but Bosnia avoided the worst until the rise in Serbia of Slobodan Milosevic, borne aloft by scaremongering and Stalinist in his methods, in the 1980s.

Even in the final chapter, "the destruction of Bosnia: 1992-1993", Malcolm preserves a scholarly detachment. His contention in this book is that it is impossible to explain the ferocity of the present war as the product of "ancient ethnic hatreds". Bosnia had been, and could have been again, a humane and civilised society: it was destroyed by "young urban gangsters in expensive sunglasses from Serbia", acting under orders, using "a method carefully calculated to drive out two ethnic populations and radicalise a third". But, he argues, the "miscomprehension and fatal interference of the leaders of the West" have contributed almost as much to Bosnia's martyrdom.

Malcolm's indictment of our folly is well-merited. He set out to fill a gap, and he has written a masterpiece. Few histories have made history. This one could yet do so.

THE TIMES
OWN YOUR OWN

Goya

The first major exhibition of the work of Francisco Goya for 30 years opens on March 17 at the Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, London, W1.
Goya: Truth and Fantasy will contain about 100 small-scale paintings drawn from private collections, museums and galleries. The exhibition, which runs until June 12, is mounted in association with *The Times*, Classic FM and with support from Iberia Airlines.
To celebrate the power of Goya's art, The Times is offering readers a free reproduction print of Goya's 1794-95 painting Self-Portrait in the studio owned by Museo de la Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando, Madrid. The reproduction print measures 510mm x 360mm including border and is printed on heavyweight paper.



Museo de la Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando, Madrid.

Self-Portrait in the Studio (detail), c. 1794-95.

HOW TO GET YOUR FREE GOYA
Collect six tokens from *The Times* (the first was printed in *The Times* Magazine last Saturday, March 12, and one will be printed everyday this week). When you have collected six tokens, attach them to the coupon which appeared in *The Times* Magazine on Saturday, March 12.
Full details of where to send your application and how to get your free reproduction print framed will also appear in the Weekend section on Saturday, March 19.

THE TIMES
Goya
TOKEN 5

Jodami poised for notable double



Julian Muscat previews jumping's showpiece event and expects the champion to retain his crown

STEVE DAVIES



Beaumont and his daughter, Anthea Farrell, put the last-minute touches to Jodami's Cup preparation

JODAMI today stands on the brink of greatness. The strapping nine-year-old, a model of a steeplechaser, returns to Cheltenham to defend the Tote Gold Cup he won in quite scintillating style 12 months ago.

Should he repeat that victory — and it is hard to see what can stop him — Jodami will emulate the popular L'Escargot, the last horse to land consecutive Gold Cups when he triumphed in 1971.

More importantly, the strapping nine-year-old will have Arkle's treble in his sights. It would be utterly frivolous to suggest Jodami is in Arkle's league, yet he promises to emerge as the outstanding animal for which the racing public have clamoured since *Desert Orchid's* retirement.

Before than can happen, however, Jodami has to overcome the 15 opponents ranged against him. That the portents favour him was demonstrated when Barton Bank, his most threatening rival, defected from the contest last week with a broken blood vessel.

In his absence, **Flashing Steel** should emerge as Jodami's closest victim, as he would have been at Leopardstown last month but for a crashing fall at the second-last fence.

That Leopardstown contest, the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup, is intrinsic to today's encounter. It marked the occasion Jodami recaptured his old brilliance after a spell in the wilderness. The horse's trainer, Peter Beaumont, has handled this uncharacteristically wretched period with aplomb and can now look forward to his reward.

Beaumont's faith in Jodami has been unswerving ever since he arrived as a raw-boned four-year-old from Ireland. He was unearthed from that country's herd of recruits by the former jockey Frank Berry, on hand here at Cheltenham to watch the assault. Berry, more than most, is well placed to appreciate Jodami's class, for it was he who rode Glencaraig Lady into the Gold Cup winner's enclosure 22 years ago.

Jodami's regular rider, Mark Dwyer, maintains an air of quiet confidence. "He's as good as ever and, of course, we're hopeful for him," he said yesterday. "His great assets are his jumping and the ease with which he travels through his races. I can put him anywhere in the race."

In addition to furthering his own reputation, Jodami can set the seal on the festival of Dwyer's dreams. The Champion Hurdle victory of Flakey Dove has put Dwyer in line to match the rare achievement of Fred Winter, who rode Eborneezer and Saffron Tartan to the Champion Hurdle-Gold Cup double in 1961.

Flashing Steel is a deceptive animal in that he often appears beaten only to summon hidden resources. He looked held by Jodami when coming to grief in Ireland, although the suspicion remains that he might well have forced Jodami to work hard for his victory.

Trained in Ireland by John Mulhern for the former Taoiseach, Charles Haughey, Flashing Steel is a progressive chaser who will relish this extended 3¼ miles. He has not yet shown enough to suggest he can upset Jodami, but he makes more appeal than the doubtful stayers, **Bradbury Star** and **Blazing Walker**.

Trained in France by Francois Doumen, **The Fellow** has recently attracted sustained support even though he has failed in each of his three previous challenges. Furthermore, the evidence of his last run suggests he is not the force of old.

Run For Free, who injured himself when beaten by Dubacilla and Young Hustler here last time, should prove best of the quartet trained by Martin Pipe.

Jodami's cramped odds — he is 6-5 with Ladbrokes — render him an unattractive betting proposition. That will matter little to the thousands at Cheltenham, whose overwhelming preference, as they demonstrated yesterday, is to savour champions in action.

Judicial Field to cheer Weld

FESTIVAL GUIDE

2.15: This race traditionally sinks the firmest favourites and although Mysilv boasts outstanding form credentials, David Nicholson's filly has had more than her fair share of races. Her front-runnning style may not be so successful here and she represents appalling value. Lightly-raced runners often flourish here and my three against the field are Collier Bay, who recorded a good time when winning at Lingfield, Kadastrof, who has improved with every run and will appreciate the strong pace, and **Shirley's Delight**. The pick of the Irish challengers won three times on the Flat last season and, despite winning on heavy ground over hurdles, she will almost certainly prefer today's faster surface.

2.50: Sweet Duke loves Cheltenham and is sure to set a searching gallop, which should play into the hands of **Balasani**, regarded by the Martin Pipe stable as its festival banker. A winner at Royal Ascot last summer, the eight-year-old possesses decisive acceleration, which he showed to good effect when winning at Kempton last month. David Nicholson believes he has Triple Witching back to the form which saw him win impressively early in the season. Simpson would prefer softer ground.

3.30: see left.

4.05: **Double Silk**, the winner of this race last year and favourite for next month's Grand National, has frightened away almost all the opposition and it will be a major surprise if he fails to win — but don't expect to get rich at his starting price. Teaplanter is likely to follow him home.

4.40: Storm Alert is one of the best two-mile handicappers in the land but does not relish the undulations of Cheltenham. Lackendara is particularly well handicapped but has a worrying tendency to break blood vessels. **Force Seven**, trained by Paddy Mullins, has been running in top Irish races, finishing a good third to Jodami and Deep Bramble in the Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup Chase at Leopardstown last month. That was over three miles but he has won over today's minimum trip and this stiff track should be ideal.

5.15: It is impossible to look beyond the claims of **Dubacilla** in this small field. The mare has been a revelation this term and would not have been out of place in the Gold Cup. The rate at which she has improved has surprised her connections, who failed to enter her for the Blue Riband. Her defeat of Young Hustler and Run For Free is well ahead of anything achieved by her five opponents and she defied the handicapper when following up at Ascot.

Raymylette is promising but inexperienced; Hawthorn Blaze disappointed at Wetherby last time. The Irish challengers Buckboard Bounce and Commercial Artist have better place prospects.

5.50: Precious Boy chases a £50,000 bonus after his narrow success in the Imperial Cup on Saturday but a 7lb penalty should swing things in favour of the runner-up, Riva. However, the latter is a wayward sort. Preference is for **Judicial Field**, a fine third in The Ladbroke hurdle on unsuitably soft ground last time. He looks capable of giving his trainer, Dermot Weld, some consolation after Fortune And Fame's injury and can send the Irish home on a winning note. Dancing Paddy may be anchored by his penalty; Taroudant, Nijmegen and Diplomatic have more attractive place prospects.

RICHARD EVANS
JULIAN MUSCAT

BIG-RACE FIELD

3.30 TOTE CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP CHASE BBC1
(Grade I: £118,770: 3m 2f 110yd) (16 runners)

301 11/36-1 BLAZING WALKER 40 (F,G,S) (P Piller) P Cheesbrough 10-12-0 C Grant 83
Yellow, royal blue stripe, armlets and cap
302 23-1124 BRADBURY STAR 40 (C,F,G,S) (J Campbell) J Gifford 9-12-0 D Murphy 98
Royal blue, red braces, red cap
303 1111U-P CAPABILITY BROWN 89 (F,G,S) (D Lewis) M Pipe 7-12-0 M A Fitzgerald 69
Red, light blue cross belts and sleeves
304 1/420-24 CHATAM 32 (C,D,F,G,S) (A Nolan) M Pipe 10-12-0 G McCourt 87
Royal blue, emerald green epaulets and armlets
305 F-11B12 DEEP BRAMBLE 32 (G,S) (J Mernagh) M Hourigan (Ire) 7-12-0 P Niven 87
Purple, gold hoop on body and sleeves, yellow cap, purple spots
306 411-302 DOCKLANDS EXPRESS 19 (D,F,G,S) (R Baines) K Bailey 12-12-0 D Gallagher 92
Royal blue, yellow braces, hooped sleeves, yellow cap
307 10-112F FLASHING STEEL 32 (C,G,S) (C Haughey) J Mulhern (Ire) 9-12-0 J Osborne 89
Black, blue sash and cap
308 23401P GARRISON SAVANNAH 19 (CD,G,S) (Autofour Eng) Mrs J Pitman 11-12-0 G Bradley 73
Orange, black star, black and orange striped sleeves, orange cap, black star
309 1-F1331 JODAMI 32 (CD,F,G,S) (J Yeadon) P Beaumont 9-12-0 M Dwyer 99
Light green, black sash, black and white hooped sleeves and cap
310 1/223P-1 MIINNEHOMA 12 (C,D,F,G,S) (F Starr) M Pipe 11-12-0 A Maguire 90
Red, yellow star and sleeves, yellow cap, red star
311 2021-23 RUN FOR FREE 47 (D,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs M Freethy) M Pipe 10-12-0 M Perrett 91
Maroon, yellow epaulets, armlets and star on cap
312 1F-P425 RYDE AGAIN 19 (C,F,G,S) (Miss J Hayward) Mrs J Pitman 11-12-0 S McNeill 78
Scarlet and white check, white sleeves, blue and white check cap
313 45-3333 THE FELLOW 19 (B,BF,G,S) (Marquesa de Moratalla) F Doumen (Fr) 9-12-0 A Kondrat 96
Red, light green cap
314 1-333PU TOPSHAM BAY 21 (CD,F,G,S) (Sir Eric Parker) D Barons 11-12-0 J Frost 81
Light blue, white cross belts, red cap
315 21423F YOUNG HUSTLER 19 (C,F,G,S) (G MacEchern) N Twiston-Davies 7-12-0 C Llewellyn 85
Dark blue, yellow stripe, yellow sleeves, dark blue armlets and star on yellow cap
316 214-S64 EBONY JANE 53 (G,S) (J Lynch) F Flood (Ire) 9-11-9 C Swan 74
Maroon, light green sleeves, black cap, light green star

BETTING: Evens Jodami, 6-1 The Fellow, 7-1 Bradbury Star, 10-1 Run For Free, 14-1 Flashing Steel, Miinnehoma, 20-1 Deep Bramble, 25-1 others.

1993: JODAMI 8-12-0 M Dwyer (8-1) P Beaumont 16 ran

FORM GUIDE TO THE 16 GOLD CUP CHALLENGERS

BLAZING WALKER
Feb 5, Wetherby, soft: (11-10) beat Uncle Ernie (11-1) 1l (2m 4f 110yd, grade II h'cap ch, £15,996, 6 ran).
Feb 27, 1993, Kempton, soft: see Docklands Express.

BRADBURY STAR
Feb 5, Sandown, soft: see Young Hustler.
Dec 27, 1993, Kempton, good: (11-10) head 2nd to Barton Bank (11-10) with The Fellow (11-10) 10l 3rd, Young Hustler (11-10) 10l 4th, Docklands Express (11-10) 30l 7th (3m, grade I ch, £51,780, 10 ran).

CAPABILITY BROWN
Dec 18, 1993, Ascot, good to soft: see Young Hustler.
Mar 17, 1993, Cheltenham, good to firm: see Young Hustler.

CHATAM
Feb 13, Leopardstown, heavy: see Jodami.
Jan 15, Warwick, heavy: (11-10) 3l 2nd to Moorcroft Boy (10-0) (3m 5f, h'cap ch, £7,727, 9 ran).
Mar 18, 1993, Cheltenham, good to firm, see Jodami.

DEEP BRAMBLE
Feb 13, Leopardstown, heavy: see Jodami.
Dec 28, 1993, Leopardstown, soft: (11-11) beat Flashing Steel (11-11) head (3m, grade I ch, £29,750, 9 ran).

DOCKLANDS EXPRESS
Feb 26, Kempton, soft: (11-8) 6l 2nd to Antonin (10-9) with The Fellow (11-13) 1l 3rd and Ryde Again (10-10) 8l 5th (3m, grade III h'cap ch, £29,700, 16 ran)
Dec 27, 1993, Kempton, good: see Bradbury Star.
Dec 11, 1993, Doncaster, good: (12-0) 13½l 3rd to Carbisdale (10-0) (3m 2f, h'cap ch, £5,638, 4 ran).
Feb 27, 1993, Kempton, good: (12-0) 1½l 2nd to Zeta's Lad (10-10) with Bradbury Star (10-10) neck 3rd and Blazing Walker (11-13) 14l 6th (3m, grade III h'cap ch, £28,110, 12 ran).

FLASHING STEEL
Feb 13, Leopardstown, heavy: see Jodami.
Dec 28, 1993, Leopardstown, soft: see Deep Bramble.
Dec 10, 1993, Cheltenham, good: (11-2) beat Ushers Island (10-0) 5l with Topsham Bay (11-10) 3l 3rd (3m 1f 110yd, h'cap ch, £10,358, 6 ran).

GARRISON SAVANNAH
Feb 26, Kempton, soft: see Young Hustler.
Feb 10, Wincanton, good to soft: (11-2) beat Ryde Again (11-10) 3l (2m 5f, ch, £5,248, 5 ran).
Nov 27, 1993, Newbury, good. (10-13) tailed off to Cogent (10-1) (3m 2f 110yd, grade III h'cap ch, £35,152, 9 ran).
Jan 30, 1993, Cheltenham, soft: (11-12) 22l 5th to Sibton Abbey (11-12) with Miinnehoma (11-12) pulled up 4 out (3m 1f 110yd, ch, £10,309, 7 ran).

JODAMI
Feb 13, Leopardstown, heavy: (12-0) beat Deep Bramble (12-0) 7l with Chatam (12-0) 8½l 4th and Flashing Steel (12-0) fell 2 out (3m, grade I ch, £43,125, 6 ran).
Jan 22, Haydock, soft: see Run For Free.
Dec 4, 1993, Chepstow, good to soft. (12-0) 12l 3rd to Party Politics (10-9) (3m, grade II h'cap ch, £15,970, 5 ran).
Mar 18, 1993, Cheltenham, good to firm: (12-0) beat Rushing Wild (12-0) 2l with The Fellow (12-0) 7½l 4th, Docklands Express (12-0) 4¾l 6th, Garrison Savannah (12-0) 10l 7th, Run For Free (12-0) 5l 8th, Chatam (12-0) 13l 11th and Topsham Bay (12-0) head 12th (3m 2f 110yd, grade I ch, £99,448, 16 ran)

MIINNEHOMA
Mar 5, Newbury, good: (12-0) beat Forest Sun (10-10) 2l (2m 4f, h'cap ch, £5,640, 5 ran)
Jan 30, 1993, Cheltenham, soft: see Garrison Savannah.
Dec 28, 1992, Chepstow, soft: see Run For Free.

RUN FOR FREE
Jan 29, Cheltenham, soft: see Young Hustler.
Jan 22, Haydock, soft: (11-0) head 2nd to Zeta's Lad (10-10) with Jodami (11-10) 2l 3rd (3m, grade II h'cap ch, £15,475, 6 ran).
Apr 17, 1993, Ayr, good: (11-10) beat Merry Master (10-0) neck (4m 1f, grade III h'cap ch, £29,700, 21 ran).
Dec 28, 1992, Chepstow, soft: (10-9) beat Riverside Boy (10-0) 8l with Miinnehoma (10-11) 5l 3rd (3m 5f 110yd, grade III h'cap ch, £24,872, 11 ran).

RYDE AGAIN
Feb 26, Kempton, soft: see Docklands Express.
Feb 10, Wincanton, good to soft: see Garrison Savannah.
Jan 29, Cheltenham, soft: (11-3) 14¾l 4th to Waterloo Boy (12-0) (2m 5l, h'cap ch, £5,810, 8 ran).

THE FELLOW
Feb 26, Kempton, soft: see Docklands Express.
Dec 27, 1993, Kempton, good. see Bradbury Star.

TOPSHAM BAY
Feb 24, Wincanton, good to soft. (11-2) unseated rider 5 out behind See More Indians (11-7) (3m 1f 110yd ch, £10,698, 4 ran)
Jan 3, Cheltenham, soft. (11-10) pulled up behind *Moorcroft Boy (10-0) (4m 1f, h'cap ch, £7,068, 9 ran).*
Dec 10, 1993, Cheltenham, good. see Flashing Steel.

YOUNG HUSTLER
Feb 26, Kempton, soft. (11-7) fell 2 out behind Master Oats (10-2) with Garrison Savannah (10-12) pulled up 17th (3m 4f 110yd, h'cap ch, £22,159, 12 ran).
Feb 5, Sandown, soft. (10-13) 5l 3rd to Second Schedual (10-7) with Bradbury Star (11-10) 20l 4th (3m 110yd, grade II h'cap ch, £18,570, 5 ran)
Jan 29, Cheltenham, soft: (11-6) 6l 2nd to Dubacilla (10-12) with Run For Free (11-6) 10l 3rd (3m 1f 110yd, ch, £10,309, 5 ran)
Dec 18, 1993, Ascot, good to soft: (11-10) beat Latent Talent (11-4) 6l with Capability Brown (11-5) pulled up 2 out (3m 110yd, h'cap ch, £23,207, 8 ran)
Mar 17, 1993, Cheltenham, good to firm: (11-4) beat Superior Finish (11-4) 3l with Capability Brown (11-4) unseated rider (3m 1f, grade I nov ch, £42,935, 8 ran)

EBONY JANE
Jan 23, Leopardstown, soft: (11-2) 10½l 4th to High Peak (10-0) (3m, grade II h'cap ch, £14,375, 9 ran).

Selection: JODAMI

CHELTENHAM

THUNDERER
2.15 Mysilv
2.50 TRIPLE WITCHING (nap)
3.30 Jodami
4.05 Double Silk
4.40 Lackendara
5.15 Dubacilla
5.50 Nijmegen

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.30 JODAMI.
Brian Beel: 4.05 Double Silk.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS

2.15 DAILY EXPRESS TRIUMPH HURDLE BBC1
(Grade I: 4-Y-O: £36,372: 2m 1f) (30 runners)

101 322111 ALLEGATION 29 (V,S) (Southern Depots) M Pipe 11-0 M Foster 68
102 51000 ATHERTON GREEN 10 (G) (Atherton and Green) J Glover 11-0 Richard Guest 53
103 161 BAGALINO 27 (G,S) (Sir Eric Parker) G Harwood 11-0 M Perrett 79
104 0 BLUE GROTTO 34 (BF) (Mrs C Dowc) M Tompkins 11-0 R Campbell —
105 41 COLLIER BAY 13 (S) (W Stuart) J Old 11-0 T Grantham 93
106 136 CONTRACT ELITE 150 (BF,F) (B Whitelaw) C Thornton 11-0 D Wilkinson 50
107 621 DARING PAST 34 (S) (J Petty) M Hammond 11-0 P Niven 67
108 4P34 DAYADAN 19 (K Jones) B Ellison 11-0 M A Fitzgerald 50
109 11 DEVILS DEN 40 (S) (T Beresford) M Pipe 11-0 G Bradley 67
110 2651 DOCTOOR 6 (S) (J Baker) R O'Sullivan 11-0 D O'Sullivan 71
111 5F35 DUVEEN 61 (Fat Boys Racing) N Twiston-Davies 11-0 C Llewellyn 66
112 6 FLAMING MIRACLE 12 (G Barnett) G Barnett 11-0 D Gallagher —
113 32 GENERAL MOUKTAR 13 (BF) (A Helassi) M Pipe 11-0 G McCourt 73
114 11 GLENSTAL FLAGSHIP 102 (G) (J Crowley) A O'Brien (Ire) 11-0 C Swan 74
115 421 GROUND NUT 21 (S) (V McCalla) Miss H Knight 11-0 J Osborne 75
116 131 KADASTROF 61 (S) (A Paton) R Dickin 11-0 D Meredith 77
117 022654 KARAR 12 (Mrs M Sampson) R Rowe 11-0 B Powell 75
118 30 MANILA BAY 27 (Dagam Ltd) J King 11-0 J R Kavanagh 50
119 60500 MONAZITE 19 (Albury Racing Ltd) J McConnochie 11-0 M Richards 58
120 211 MOORISH 38 (D,S) (A Fitzpatrick) J White 11-0 D Murphy 65
121 11F621 MY BALLYBOY 26 (G,S) (A Bailey) A Bailey 11-0 S Smith Eccles 80
122 12432 NAWAR 29 (B,BF,S) (J Long) J Jenkins 11-0 J Railton 75
123 04P340 PAPER DAYS 6 (B) (M Kent) P Murphy 11-0 E Murphy 61
124 1112 PRIDWELL 2 (CD,G,S) (Pond House Racing) M Pipe 11-0 J Lower 86
125 011044 STAR MARKET 15 (G,S) (Midland Markets Ltd) Mrs P Joynes 11-0 T Wall 50
126 0224 STRICTLY PERSONAL 37 (BF) (Racing 2000) M Wilkinson 11-0 L Harvey 83
127 1212 WINTER FOREST 19 (S) D Nicholson 11-0 W Marston 75
128 330530 GUNNER SUE 36 (Mrs H Pratt) M Scudamore 10-9 S McNeill 50
129 11111 MYSILV 19 (CD,G,S) (Million in Mind Partnership) D Nicholson 10-9 A Maguire 99
130 121 SHIRLEY'S DELIGHT 32 (S) (L Doherty) N Meade (Ire) 10-9 P Carberry 90

BETTING: 3-1 Mysilv, 6-1 Shirley's Delight, 10-1 Devils Den, Pridwell, 14-1 Kadastrof, 16-1 Bagalino, Collier Bay General Mouktar, Ground Nut, Moorish, 25-1 Daring Past, Winter Forest, 33-1 others.

1993, SHAWIYA 10-9 C Swan (12-1) M P O'Brien (Ire) 25 ran

FORM FOCUS

BAGALINO beat Edithmead neck in 9-runner novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, soft) with COLLIER BAY (7lb worse off) 8½l 4th and MANILA BAY tailed off last. COLLIER BAY beat GENERAL MOUKTAR 20l in 4-runner novice hurdle at Lingfield (2m 110yd, heavy). DEVILS DEN beat Ereksile 3½l in 15-runner novice hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, heavy). GLENSTAL FLAGSHIP beat My Kerry Dancer 13l in 13-runner novice hurdle at Punchestown (2m, yielding). KADASTROF beat WINTER FOREST (2lb better off) 4l in 10-runner novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, soft). PRIDWELL 8l 2nd of 18 to Arctic Kinsman in grade 1 Citroen Supreme Novices Hurdle on the Old Course here (2m 110yd, good to soft) on Tuesday. MYSILV beat WINTER FOREST (4lb worse off) 30l in 3-runner grade II Adonis Novice Hurdle at Kempton (2m, soft).
SHIRLEY'S DELIGHT beat Tropical Lake 3l in 7-runner grade III National Irish Bank Novice Hurdle at Leopardstown (2m, heavy).
Selection: MYSILV

2.50 BONUSPRINT STAYERS HURDLE BBC1
(Grade I: £46,625: 3m 110yd) (14 runners)

201 324-232 AVRO ANSON 54 (F,G) (B Skirton) M Camacho 6-11-10 M Dwyer 92
202 4020-41 BALASANI 19 (D,F,G,S) (M Smith) M Pipe 8-11-10 M Perrett 94
203 F1F311 BART OWEN 12 (D,G,S) (Mrs S McCarthy) P Mullins (Ire) 9-11-10 G Bradley 69
204 333244 BURGOYNE 19 (C,G) (P Savill) M H Easterby 8-11-10 P Niven 95
205 2-PP5P3 CARDINAL RED 12 (D,F,G) (Mrs F Walwyn) B De Haan 7-11-10 S McNeill 80
206 61P33-1 DESERT FORCE 29 (G,S) (T Pearson) R Weaver 5-11-10 A Carroll 50
207 111211 MINELLA LAD 40 (D,G,S) (J Nallen) A O'Brien (Ire) 8-11-10 T Horgan 73
208 1/01224- PRAGADA 318 (B,C,D,G,S) (Mrs M McGlone) M Pipe 11-11-10 C Swan 97
209 1111 SEEKIN CASH 35 (D,S) (Mrs D Thompson) C Egerton 5-11-10 J Osborne 80
210 4/12-281 SIMPSON 54 (D,F,G,S) (M Jarvis) J Old 9-11-10 T Grantham 96
211 211324 SWEET DUKE 40 (CD,G,S) (A Mavrou) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-10 C Llewellyn 99
212 5430-05 SWEET GLOW 47 (CD,F,G,S) (L Hyman) M Pipe 7-11-10 J Lower 90
213 34/1104 TRIPLE WITCHING 47 (D,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) D Nicholson 8-11-10 A Maguire 98
214 1-31424 DEB'S BALL 12F (F,G,S) (J Motrani) D Moffatt 8-11-5 D J Moffatt 86

BETTING: 9-2 Balasani, 11-2 Minella Lad, 6-1 Seekin Cash, Sweet Duke, 7-1 Triple Witching, 8-1 Avro Anson, Pragada, Simpson, 16-1 Sweet Glow, 33-1 Bart Owen, Burgoyne, Deb's Ball, 50-1 others.

1993: SHUIL AR AGHAIDH 7-11-5 C Swan (20-1) P Kiely (Ire) 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

BALASANI beat Cab On Target 5l in 5-runner grade II Rendlesham Hurdle at Kempton (3m 110yd, soft) with BURGOYNE distance 4th. BART OWEN completed double, beat Calmos 1½l in 12-runner extended handicap hurdle at Navan (3m, heavy). MINELLA LAD beat Templeman Prince 2½l in 5-runner grade II listed Kenak Boyne EBF Hurdle at Navan (2m 6f, heavy). PRAGADA 2½l 2nd of 12 to Shuil Ar Aghaidh in this race last year (good to firm) with SWEET DUKE 11l 4th, SWEET GLOW short-head 5th and BURGOYNE tailed off 9th. SEEKIN CASH beat Rafiael 10l in 4-runner novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 5f 110yd, soft). SIMPSON beat AVRO ANSON 3½l in 8-runner grade II Premier Long Distance Hurdle at Haydock (2m 7f 110yd, soft) with SWEET DUKE (7lb better off) short-head 3rd, BURGOYNE 3½l 4th and SWEET GLOW (7lb better off) tailed off 7th. SWEET DUKE beat BURGOYNE 2l in 9-runner grade I Long Walk Hurdle at Ascot (3m 1f 110yd, good to soft) with AVRO ANSON 3l 3rd, BALASANI 7l 4th and TRIPLE WITCHING tailed off 7th. TRIPLE WITCHING best effort this term, beat SWEET DUKE (7lb better off) 6l in 7-runner grade II Long Distance Hurdle at Newbury (3m 110yd, good) with BURGOYNE (4lb better off) 1½l 3rd, DEB'S BALL (4lb better off) 8l 4th and SIMPSON 33l 6th.
Selection: SWEET DUKE

3.30 TOTE CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP CHASE BBC1
(Grade I: £118,770: 3m 2f 110yd) (16 runners)
RUNNERS AND RIDERS — SEE ABOVE

4.05 CHRISTIES FOXHUNTER CHASE CHALLENGE CUP (Amateurs: £13,580: 3m 2f 110yd) (5 runners) BBC2

401 24/1446- ARDESEE 19P (D,F,G,S) (D White) D White 14-12-0 J White 62
402 111-111 DOUBLE SILK 14 (CD,F,G,S) (R Wilkins) R Wilkins 10-12-0 R Treloggen 99
403 1113-22 ONCE STUNG 14 (B,C,D,BF,F,G,S) (J Greenall) P Cheesbrough 8-12-0 J Greenall 78
404 /135/0-4 SPEAKERS CORNER 10 (CD,F,G) (N Scott) M Sowersby 11-12-0 M Sowersby 63
405 F211-11 TEAPLANTER 20 (F,G,S) (R Russell) Miss C Saunders 11-12-0 R Russell 83

BETTING: 1-3 Double Silk, 4-1 Teaplanter, 7-1 Once Stung, 33-1 Ardesee, 50-1 Speakers Corner.

1993: DOUBLE SILK 9-12-0 R Treloggen (12-1) R Wilkins 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

ARDESEE beat Phelioff neck in 12-runner lady riders open at Tweseldown (3m, soft).
DOUBLE SILK beat Mount Argus 30l in 6-runner hunter chase at Warwick (3m 2f, good to soft).
ONCE STUNG 5l 2nd of 17 to Bonanza Boy in hunter chase at Ludlow (3m, good)
SPEAKERS CORNER 16l 4th of 17 to Lingham Magic in hunter chase at Doncaster (2m 3f 110yd, good to firm).
TEAPLANTER beat Mr Murdock 5l in 5-runner hunter chase at Kempton (3m, soft).
Selection: DOUBLE SILK

4.40 122nd YEAR OF THE CHELTENHAM GRAND ANNUAL CHASE CHALLENGE CUP (Handicap: £24,309: 2m 110yd) (18 runners)

501 13-1451 STORM ALERT 40 (D,G,S) (Lt Col W Whetherly) A Turnell 8-12-0 S McNeill 88
502 3225P-0 CYPHRATE 103 (D,G,S) (Alias Smith & Jones Racing) M Pipe 8-11-10 C Swan 94
503 563121 UNCLE ERNIE 27 (D,G,S) (J Fitzgerald) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9-11-9 M Dwyer 90
504 1-1F353 FORCE SEVEN 32 (D,G,S) (Mrs C Moore) P Mullins (Ire) 7-11-6 A Maguire 98
505 210215 EGYPT MILL PRINCE 33 (B,CD,F,G,S) (S Webb) Mrs J Pitman 8-11-6 G Bradley 95
506 12-1513 BILLY BATHGATE 61 (D,F,G,S) (M Buckley) N Henderson 8-11-4 M A Fitzgerald 94
507 4-12122 CLAY COUNTY 41 (D,BF,F,G,S) (M Boyd) R Allan 9-11-1 B Storey 95
508 B1-1331 DIS TRAIN 34 (D,G,S) (M Oberstein) S Sherwood 10-10-13 M Richards 90
509 132130 TRIMLOUGH 12 (D,F,G,S) (R Perkins) P Dalton 9-10-6 W Marston 94
510 211112 SAN LORENZO 36 (D,BF,F,G,S) (J Greig) K Bailey 8-10-2 D Gallagher 93
511 14-1121 LACKENDARA 36 (D,F,G,S) (Opening Bid Partnership) Miss H Knight 7-10-2 J Osborne 99
512 132112 GOOD FOR A LAUGH 13 (D,G,S) Mrs S Bramall 10-10-0 Mr D Parker (5) 91
513 24-35P1 NORTHERN JINKS 55 (B,D,G,S) (Mrs E Smith) R Dickin 11-10-0 D Meredith (3) 90
514 P5F115 SAILORS LUCK 14 (D,BF,G,S) (G Greenwood) P Murphy 9-10-0 E Murphy 88
515 261323 THATS THE LIFE 26 (D,F,G) (A Dean) T George 9-10-0 T Jenks (3) 84
516 4F2234 SETTER COUNTRY 14 (D,BF,F,G,S) (R Alley) R Hodges 10-10-0 W Irvine 86
517 2-43342 SNITTON LANE 12 (F,G,S) (H White) W Clay 8-10-0 D Bridgwater 88
518 313U41 L'UOMO PIU 14 (D,F,G,S) (C Spencer) A Barrow 10-10-0 B Powell 72

Long handicap: Northern Jinks 9-11, Sailors Luck 9-11, Thats The Life 9-8, Setter Country 9-5, Snitton Lane 9-2, L'Uomo Piu 8-5.

BETTING: 6-1 Force Seven, 7-1 Uncle Ernie, 8-1 Billy Bathgate, Egypt Mill Prince, Lackendara, Storm Alert, 12-1 Cyphrate, Dis Train, 16-1 Good For A Laugh, San Lorenzo, 20-1 Clay County, 25-1 others.

1993: SPACE FAIR 10-11-1 A Maguire (5-1) R Lee 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

STORM ALERT beat Wonder Man neck in 5-runner handicap chase at Sandown (2m, soft). UNCLE ERNIE beat Young Snugfit 3l in 3-runner handicap chase at Sandown (2m, good to soft). FORCE SEVEN best effort neck 3rd of 9 to Deep Bramble in grade I Ericsson Chase at Leopardstown (3m, soft). EGYPT MILL PRINCE beat SETTER COUNTRY (2lb worse off) 8l in 6-runner handicap chase at Wincanton (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start.
BILLY BATHGATE beat Wonder Man 15l in 5-runner handicap chase at Ascot (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start with UNCLE ERNIE (13lb better off) 2½l 3rd.
DIS TRAIN beat Mr Felix 5l in 4-runner handicap chase at Newbury (2m, heavy). LACKENDARA beat SAN LORENZO (4lb worse off) 10l in novice chase at Ascot (2m, soft).
Selection: UNCLE ERNIE

5.15 CATHCART CHALLENGE CUP CHASE (£29,240: 2m 5f) (6 runners)

601 3-61214 BUCKBOARD BOUNCE 11 (D,BF,G,S) (J Mulhern) J Mulhern (Ire) 8-11-3 C Swan 81
602 2F125P COMMERCIAL ARTIST 2 (G,S) (M O'Neill) V Bowens (Ire) 8-11-3 C Bowens 74
603 4/1111-5 HAWTHORN BLAZE 40 (BF,G,S) (C Smith) M Pipe 8-11-0 A Maguire 80
604 0112-11 RAYMYLETTE 37 (S) (Lady Lloyd Webber) N Henderson 7-11-0 M A Fitzgerald 82
605 2U1335 WINDSOR PARK 161 (F) (Mrs S Brookhouse) C Broad 8-11-0 V Slattery 50
606 1-23111 DUBACILLA 36 (C,D,G,S) (Mrs V Cole) H Cole 8-10-12 D Gallagher 99

BETTING: 4-5 Dubacilla, 7-2 Raymylette, 5-1 Hawthorn Blaze, 6-1 Buckboard Bounce, 16-1 others.

1993: SECOND SCHEDUAL 8-11-3 A Maguire (6-1) A Moore (Ire) 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

BUCKBOARD BOUNCE beat COMMERCIAL ARTIST (4lb worse off) 2½l in 13-runner handicap chase at Fairyhouse (2m 4f, heavy) on penultimate start. COMMERCIAL ARTIST previously beat Halo Said 9l in 8-runner grade II P Z Mower Chase at Thurles (2m 4l, heavy). HAWTHORN BLAZE best effort beat Henry Mann 20l in 4-runner chase at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) on final start last season. RAYMYLETTE beat River Mandate 6l in 8-runner novice chase at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). Previously beat Rouyan 30l in 11-runner novice chase at Leicester (2m 4l 110yd, good to soft) on chasing debut. WINDSOR PARK 9l 3rd of 10 to Marchman in novice chase at Taunton (2m 110yd, firm) on penultimate start. DUBACILLA beat Rough Quest ½l in 8-runner handicap chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, soft). Previously beat Young Hustler 6l in 5-runner chase here (3m 1f 110yd, soft).
Selection: HAWTHORN BLAZE

5.50 75th YEAR OF THE COUNTY HANDICAP HURDLE
(Grade III: £22,250: 2m 1f) (24 runners)

1 /12/4P1 PRECIOUS BOY 5 (G,S) (M Johnson) M Meagher 8-11-11 (7ex) L Wyer 89
2 133-111 BATABANOO 13F (F,G,S) (P Savill) Mrs M Reveley 5-11-10 B Storey 87
3 F01-511 DANCING PADDY 12 (CD,G,S) K Cunningham-Brown 6-11-9 (7ex) D O'Sullivan 87
4 P0-1124 HERE HE COMES 5 (G,S) (E Harrington) R Akehurst 8-11-4 S Ryan (7) 92
5 211350 TAROUDANT 12 (D,G) (G Farndon) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-13 P Niven 86
6 3-82453 JUDICIAL FIELD 68 (B,S) (Miss K McGann) D Weld (Ire) 5-10-13 A Maguire 85
7 212068 NAHAR 5 (G) (R Cross) S Dow 9-10-10 A Dicken 90
8 1021-8P HER HONOUR 5 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs A Farrant) M Pipe 5-10-10 C Swan 82
9 1-21041 ARABIAN BOLD 7 (F,G,S) (Shaikh Amin Dahlawi) N Henderson 6-10-8 M A Fitzgerald 99
10 8-2F25R ARCOT 5 (V,B,S) (Pell-mell Partners) J Glover 6-10-7 G McCourt 92
11 00-0310 NIJMEGEN 33 (S) (W Hancock) Jimmy FitzGerald 6-10-7 M Dwyer 94
12 10/12-32 RIVA 6 (F,S) (A Huccain) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 7-10-6 C Llewellyn 95
13 3F410-4 HOLY WANDERER 20F (F) (Mrs J Leak) D Arbuthnot 5-10-2 G Upton 88
14 25-3123 DIPLOMATIC 33 (S) (Mrs J Keeling) M O'Toole (Ire) 5-10-1 J P Banahan 91
15 6-06222 DIZZY 6 (BF,F,G,S) (Lt-Col W Monteith) P Monteith 6-10-0 A Dobbin 94
16 08/0355 ELEMENTARY 12 (D,G,S) (P Green) N Walker 11-10-0 D Murphy 90
17 430-303 EDEN'S CLOSE 27 (G) (Mrs M Barwell) M Tompkins 5-10-0 M Richards 87
18 F2112 FIVE TO SEVEN 13 (S) (The Five to Seven Partnership) C Thornton 5-10-0 D Wilkinson 82
19 116223 NORTHERN SADDLER 13 (D,BF,F,G,S) (R Evans) R Hodges 7-10-0 D Fortt (5) 85
20 36-1445 STATAJACK 61 (B,G) (Mrs M Slade) D Elsworth 6-10-0 P Holley 84
21 6-51312 EASTHORPE 26 (BF,G,S) (M Broughton) Miss H Knight 6-10-0 J Osborne 82
22 00-013U STEEL DAWN 2 (B,S) (R Curran) R Curran (Ire) 7-10-0 C O'Brien (3) 98
23 0310-12 PONTOON BRIDGE 146 (BF,F,S) (P Wiegand) G Harwood 7-10-0 M Perrett 89
24 35-5046 RED RING 7 (S) (G Wilson) J Webber 7-10-0 W Marston 54

Long handicap: Elementary 9-11, Eden's Close 9-11, Five To Seven 9-9, Northern Saddler 9-8, Statajack 9-7, Easthorpe 9-4, Steel Dawn 9-4, Pontoon Bridge 9-0, Red Ring 8-2.

BETTING: 8-1 Judicial Field, 10-1 Batabanoo, Riva, 12-1 Arabian Bold, Arcot, Five To Seven, Taroudant, 14-1 Dancing Paddy, Here He Comes, Nijmegen, 16-1 Diplomatic, Precious Boy, Steel Dawn, 20-1 others.

1993: THUMBS UP 7-10-2 R Dunwoody (16-1) N Henderson 21 ran

FORM FOCUS

PRECIOUS BOY beat RIVA (7lb better off) ½l in handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good) on Saturday with HERE HE COMES (7lb better off) 4l 4th, NAHAR (7lb better off) 3½l 6th. HER HONOUR (7lb better off) pulled up before last and ARCOT (7lb better off) refused to race. BATABANOO beat Satin Lover 8l in handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 110yd, good). DANCING PADDY beat Mayed 2½l in 7-runner handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, good) with ELEMENTARY (7lb better off) 17l 5th and NAHAR (7lb better off) ½l 6th. JUDICIAL FIELD 5½l 3rd to Atone in grade I Ladbroke Hurdle at Leopardstown (2m, soft) with NAHAR (3lb better off) tailed off 24th. NIJMEGEN beat High Baron 5l in handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m, good to soft) with NORTHERN SADDLER (1lb better off) 25½l 6th. FIVE TO SEVEN 12l 2nd of 13 to Morcell in novice hurdle at Kelso (2m 2f, soft). STEEL DAWN going well when unseated rider 3 out in 32-runner handicap hurdle here (3m 2f, good to soft) on Tuesday.
Selection: BATABANOO

FESTIVAL COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Twiston-Davies	4	18	22.2	C Llewellyn	3	15	20.0
N Henderson	7	46	15.2	J Osborne	8	42	18.0
J Gifford	4	47	8.5	C Swan	5	35	14.3
D Elsworth	3	39	7.7	A Maguire	4	32	12.5
D Nicholson	4	54	7.4	J Frost	3	26	11.5
M Pipe	7	111	6.3	M Dwyer	3	33	9.1

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Cheltenham

Going: good to soft

2.15 SUN ALLIANCE NOVICES HURDLE (Grade I £39,504: 2m 5f)
DANOLI b g The Parson - Blaze Gold (D O'Neill) 6-11-7 C Swan (7-4 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating) 1.
Corrouge b h Alleged - Lake Country (M Gates) 5-11-7 C Llewellyn (10-1) 2.
Brief Gale b m Strong Gale - Lucky Chestnut (Miss C Zetter) 7-11-2 D Murphy (8-1) 3.
ALSO RAN: 12 Morcell (ur), 14 Dorans Pride (f), Pondering, 16 Coq Hardi Affair (4th), Man To Man, Top Spin (pu), 25 What A Question (6th), 33 Bay Mischief (pu), Elaine Tully, River Lossie, Strong Case, 40 Le Ginno, 50 Book Of Music, Mad Thyme, Spring Marathon (5th), Tothewoods (f), 100 Empire Blue, Fine Thyne, Hawaiian Youth, 200 Divine Chance 23 ran. NR: Kenmore-Speed. 2l, 5l, 2½l, 2l, 4l. Thomas Foley in Ireland. Tote: £2.80; £1.60, £2.60, £2.30. DF: £12.30. Trio: £20.70 CSF: £18.32.

2.50 QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE (Grade I: £74,381: 2m)
VIKING FLAGSHIP b g Viking - Fourth Degree (Roach Foods Ltd) 7-12-0 A Maguire (4-1; Richard Evans's nap) 1.
Travado br g Strong Gale - Adelina (Mrs M Ennever) 8-12-0 J Osborne (100-30) 2.
Deep Sensation ch g Deep Run - Bannow Bay (R Eliot) 9-12-0 D Murphy (15-2) 3.
ALSO RAN: 11-4 fav Remittance Man (f), 15-2 Sybillin, 14 Katabatic (6th), 16 Wonder Man (4th), 100 Space Fair (6th). 8 ran. Nk, 1l, 10l, 7l, 5l. D Nicholson at Temple Guiting. Tote: £3.70; £1.20, £1.70, £2.00. DF: £6.70 *CSF: £15.41.*

3.30 CORAL CUP
(Handicap hurdle: £37,924: 2m 5f)
TIME FOR A RUN b g Deep Run - Hourly Rate (J P McManus) 7-11-8 C Swan (11-1) 1.
So Proud b g Idiot's Delight - Deep Pride (Hon Mrs R Cobbold) 9-10-0 M Perrett (12-1) 2.
Chance Coffey gr g Pragmatic - Baby Isle (P O'Donnell) 9-10-1 K O'Brien (33-1) 3.
Viardot b g Sadler's Wells - Vive La Reine (Exors of Mrs H North) 5-10-11 P Niven (5-1 fav) 4.
ALSO RAN: 12 Bo Knows Best, 14 Cariboo Gold, Grey Power, 16 Ivor's Flutter (f), Lemon's Mill, Olympian, Peanuts Pet, 20 Dominant Serenade, Jeassu, Puntan, Shannon Glen, Steel Mirror (bd), 25 Dance Of Words, Kadi (5th), Wick Pound, 33 Glasdale, Kytton Castle, Lynch Law (bd), Shankorak (bd), Stormhead (pu), Sunset And Vine, Templeroan Prince, 40 Maestro Paul, 50 Zamirah (6th), 66 Court Circular, Pactolus. 30 ran. 1½l, 6l, 2½l, 1½l, 5l. E O'Grady in Ireland. Tote: £19.20; £4.60, £3.20, £8.50, £1.90. DF: £214.80. Trio: £2,619.80. CSF: £132.85. Tricast: £3,880.68.

4.05 SUN ALLIANCE CHASE
(Grade I: £49,017: 3m 1f)
MONSIEUR LE CURE b g The Parson - Caramore Lady (H Brown) 8-11-4 P Niven (15-2) 1.
Martomick br m Montelimar - Be My Joy (R Shaw) 7-10-13 D Gallagher (20-1) 2.
Crystal Spirit b g Kris - Crown Treasure (P Mellon) 7-11-4 J Frost (10-1) 3.
ALSO RAN: 3 fav One Man, 6 See More Indians (5th), 13-2 Belvederian (4th), 8 Honest Word (f), 14 Mailcom (pu), 20 Killula Chief (f), 25 Another Excuse (f), Mudahim, The Glow, 66 Brabazon (pu), Earth Summit, Rouyan, 100 Arthur's Minstrel (6th), Ghia Gneuiagh, 200 Petty Bridge. 18 ran. 3l, 8l, 7l, 12l, ¾l. J Edwards at Ross-on-Wye. Tote: £8.50; £2.60, £5.20, £2.70. DF: £113.50. Trio: £338.70. CSF £126.87.

4.40 (4m ch) 1, CHRISTMAS GORSE (Mr M Armytage, 14-1); 2, Extra Special (Capt A Ogden, 25-1); 3, Nearly Splendid (Mr T Greed, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 11-4 fav Front Line (pu), 11-2 Ultra Flutter (ur), 7 Durham Sunset (ur), 10 Florida Sky, 12 Rampoldi (pu), Take The Town (ur), 14 Lastofthevikings, 16 Vaineu (5th), 20 Damnification (5th), 33 Golden Fare (pu), Here Comes Charter (pu), Tasse du The (pu), 50 Dolly Oats (ur), 100 Brinkley (4th), Crews Castle (f), Kelly Owens (pu). 19 ran. 3½l, 4l, 12l, 4l, 20l. N Gaselee at Upper Lambourn. Tote: £12.00; £3.10, £15.60, £3.90. DF: £356.30. Trio: £1,906.00. CSF: £285.77.

5.15 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, ELFAST (G McCourt, 8-1); 2, Dublin Flyer (B Powell, 7-1); 3, Smartie Express (A Maguire, 14-1); 4, Fourth Of July (J Banahan, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 6 fav Gnome's Tycoon (f), 15-2 Nevada Gold (5th), 8 Forest Sun (pu), 10 Bibendum, 14 Kentish Piper, Yellow Spring (ur), 16 Richville, 25 Bishops Hall, 33 French Charmer (f), Man Of Mystery (6th), Well Wrapped (pu), 50 Lumberjack (pu), 66 Nos Na Gaoithe (pu), 100 Local Whisper (pu). 18 ran. NR: Fragrant Dawn, Stunning Stuff, Wind Force. ¾l, 4l, 12l, 1½l, 3½l. J Webber at Banbury. Tote: £9.00; £2.10, £1.70, £2.30, £3.50. DF: £26.30. Trio: £109.10. CSF: £56.87. Tricast: £709.82.

5.50 (2m 110yd flat) 1, MUCKLEMEG (C Swan, 7-2 fav); 2, Aries Girl (J Barry, 5-1); 3, Go Ballistic (R Massey, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 9 Edge Of Night, Rhythm Section (4th), 12 Dominie, Maingo (6th), Sovereign Choice, 14 Bear Claw, Lien De Famille, 16 Highly Reputable, 20 Punters Overhead, Ranager, Standing Cone, 25 Gamboling Doc, Kilona Abbot (5th), Maybe O'Grady, 33 Feels Like Gold, St Mellion Fairway, 50 Auto Pilot, Courtown Boy, Red Parade, Who Is Equiname, 66 Lead Vocalist, Linton Rocks (ur). 25 ran. 3l, 15l, ¾l, hd, 1½l. E O'Grady in Ireland. Tote: £4.90; £2.50, £2.50, £9.80. DF: £10.00. Trio: £448.60. CSF: £23.16.
Jackpot: not won (pool of £298,528.16 carried forward to Cheltenham today).
Placepot: £1,063.80.

Huntingdon

Going: good

2.10 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Hearts Are Wild (B Powell, 4-5 fav); 2, Vital Witness (6-1); 3, Rutter Money (33-1). 10 ran. 30l, 3l. T Forster. Tote: £1.60; £1.00, £2.00, £8.00. DF: £2.80 CSF: £6.96.

2.40 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Batty's Island (T Wall, 3-1); 2, Pettaugh (12-1), 3, Opalkino (20-1). Lyphentastic 4-6 fav. 6 ran. 30l, 10l B Preece. Tote: £3.40; £2.00, £4.10. DF: £10.70. CSF: £31.09

3.10 (3m ch) 1, Dragons Den (A Thornton, 7-2); 2, Mender's Way (7-2), 3, Avonburn (7-4 fav). 6 ran. 1½l, 8l. S Sherwood. Tote: £3.20; £2.00, £1.70. DF: £4.70. CSF: £15.57.

3.50 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Nirvana Prince (T Wall, 4-9 fav); 2, Gillan Cove (14-1); 3, Henry's Sister (20-1) 12 ran. 3l, 8l. B Preece. Tote: £1.50; £1.10, £4.60, £6.80 DF: £11.80. Trio: £171.50. CSF: £11.25.

4.25 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Martha's Son (R Farrant, 4-6 fav); 2, Jimmy The Gillie (7-1); 3, Amtrak Express (7-4). 4 ran. 1¼l, 8l. T Forster Tote: £1.80 DF: £2.80 CSF: £5.12.

4.55 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Marsh's Law (M Brennan, 4-1); 2, Shamshom Al Arab (3-1 fav); 3, Exploration (11-2). 10 ran. 15l, 12l. O Brennan. Tote: £3.90; £1.50, £2.20, £2.30. DF: £4.40. Trio: £30.10. CSF: £17.60 Tricast: £65.06

Placepot: £15.90.

Newton Abbot

Going: good to soft

2.00 (2m 5l ch) 1, Winter's Lane (Mr M Felton, 10-11 fav), 2, Walk In The Woods (9-4); 3, National Gypsy (12-1). 8 ran. 5l, 1½l. S Pike. Tote: £1.90; £1.10, £1.20, £2.60 DF: £2.90 CSF: £3.60

2.30 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Needs Must (R Darke, 4-1); 2, Baroness Orkzy (11-10 fav); 3, Aldahe (7-2). 5 ran. NR: Seffaah. 2½l, 15l R Frost. Tote: £3.30; £1.30, £1.20. DF: £2.40. CSF: £8.36

3.00 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Kelling (Guy Lewis, 14-1); 2, Take The Buckskin (15-8); 3, Janet Scibs (50-1). Ue Detector 4-7 fav. 13 ran 10l, 12l. P Nicholls. Tote. £31.40, £2.60, £1.40, £11.80 DF. £15.50 Trio: £175.70 CSF. £45.87.

3.40 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, Rufus (L Harvey, 9-4); 2, Saraville (6-5 fav). 3, Trusty Friend (20-1). 4 ran. 10l, 20l. B Smart. Tote £4.70. DF: £3.50 CSF: £5.24

4.15 (2m 6f hdle) 1, Warfield (Guy Lewis, 5-2 fav): 2, Surcoat (7-2); 3, Martell Boy (4-1). 7 ran NR. Busman. Sh hd, 20l. P Nicholls. Tote: £2.40; £3.00, £2.90 DF: £10.90. CSF: £12.96. Tricast: £33.85

4.50 (2m 5f ch) 1, Homme D'Affaire (M Hourigan, 6-4), 2, Chango The Act (Evens fav); 3, Villa Recos (9-2) 3 ran. 15l, 4l. R O'Sullivan. Tote: £3.10. DF £1.60 CSF: £3.14.

5.25 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Temple Knight (L Harvey, 5-2); 2, Cawarra Boy (10-11 fav). 3, Tumbled Bride (8-1). 7 ran. NR. Jumping Judge 12l, 1l Miss C Johnsey Tote £3.70; £2.10, £1.10. DF. £1.80 CSF £5.55. Tricast £14.53.

Placepot: £48.20.

Sedgefield

Going: firm

2.25 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Sharkashka (L Wyer, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, La Villa Rose (2-1 jt-fav); 3, Commanche Creek (12-1). 8 ran NR: Thaleros 5l, 10l M H Easterby Tote. £3.00; £1.10, £1.30, £1.60 DF. £4.30 CSF: £5.56.

2.55 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Huso (J Callaghan, 5-4 fav), 2, Kir (14-1), 3, Chief Raider (5-2) 7 ran NR: Integrity Boy, Very Evident 2l, 5l P Haslam. Tote £2.10; £1.10, £3.50. DF: £7.80 Trio. £26.90. CSF £17.25. Tricast £37.61

3.25 (2m 5f ch) 1, Rare Fire (N Smith, 3-1); 2, Bad Trade (5-2), 3, No More Trix (5-4 fav) 4 ran. 2½l, 3½l. Mrs M Reveley Tote £6.10. DF: £2.80. CSF: £9.38

3.55 (3m 3f ch) 1, Morgans Harbour (L Wyer, 4-9 fav); 2, Irish Gent (25-1); 3, Moyode Regent (3-2) 6 ran. Dist, dist Mrs M Reveley Tote £1.10, £2.50, £4.10 DF £5.90. CSF: £10.78

4.30 (2m 1f ch) 1, Tresidder (Mr S Swiers, 7-4 fav); 2, Heir Of Excitement (8-1). 3, Achiltibuie (8-1). 7 ran. 4l, 3l. M W Easterby. Tote: £1.80; £2.10, £2.30 DF £5.10. CSF: £12.71

5.00 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Doctor Dunklin (B Storey, 33-1). 2, Why Not Equiname (7-1), 3, Carla Adams (14-1) Lafanta 7-2 fav 9 ran, nk, 30l. Mrs V Ward. Tote. £294.40; £97.50, £2.70, £2.10 DF. £156.30. Trio: £368.20 CSF. £212.63. Tricast: £3,038.89.

Placepot: £181.40.

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Thrilling two-mile championship sets seal on magnificent sport at the Cheltenham festival

Triumph of Danoli opens day to savour

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

IAN STEWART



All to play for as the winner Viking Flagship, right, jumps the last in unison with Deep Sensation, centre, and Travado in the Queen Mother Champion Chase

THE finest hour's jump racing in modern times yesterday produced two new candidates for Cheltenham's revered hall of fame.

Only time will tell if Danoli and Viking Flagship will be hailed as stars to fill the void left since the retirement of Desert Orchid, but for the bumper crowd at Prestbury Park on the second day of the festival the duo were the heroes of a stunning day's sport.

Nap: DIZZY
(5.50 Cheltenham)
Next best: Flashing Steel
(3.30 Cheltenham)

Danoli's victory in the opening Sun Alliance Novices' Hurdle prompted the kind of reception accorded to Dawn Run as the massive Irish contingent celebrated in their own inimitable style. Hats flew high into the air, while a thoaty roar echoed to Cleeve Hill and beyond as the triumphant combination of Danoli, his jockey, Charlie Swan, and trainer, Tom Foley, edged regally towards the winner's enclosure. "So the banker has been landed and the plunge has been justified," the course commentator said as Irishmen hoisted Foley shoulder high. The 7-4 favourite, carrying the fortunes and punts of most of Ireland, had obliged.

The winner's enclosure, normally the sole preserve of the horse's immediate connections, was invaded by upwards of 80 Irishmen, who swept past security guards with the finesse the winner had displayed minutes earlier. They jigged, jogged, whooped and cheered.

For Foley, the man who had never left Ireland or flown before this week, joy was mixed with relief. For the past week or so he had slept with a gun under his pillow just in case any unwelcome guest attempted the unthinkable.

He had bought the horse for Ir7,000 guineas, rejected an offer of £250,000 a few months ago and, not surprisingly, said: "I wouldn't sell him for a million now."

How good is the horse? "He is too good for me to say. I have never had a horse like him and never will again. When he hit the front I started to get nervous and my knees nearly gave way."

Foley need not have feared. Roared on by a vociferous crowd and with Swan at his strongest, Danoli beat Corrouge by two lengths. Using Large Action as a yardstick, the result suggests Fortune And Fame would have had an excellent chance of winning the Champion Hurdle had he lined up on Tuesday. Danoli, who is likely to stick to hurdling, is now 14-1 with William Hill for next year's hurdlers' crown.

In an ordinary year the race could have proved the highlight of the festival. Within 35 minutes, spectators were treated to an encore in the Queen Mother Champion Chase as Travado, Deep Sensation and Viking Flagship approached the final fence with only a matter of inches separating them.

If anything, Viking Flagship was marginally behind, prompting Adrian Maguire to ask for the hugest of leaps. His horse responded, touched down level with his two rivals and then proceeded to show why he is one of the toughest horse in training. He clawed his way into the lead half way up the run-in and from that moment it would have taken a Pegasus to deny him his triumph.

His trainer, David Nicholson, who watched events unfold from the last fence, admitted: "Going to the last I thought we had been beaten. We have been placed in the Queen Mother a few times, but I do know he is a very tough horse.

"I think this was one of those memorable races and all power to Travado, Deep Sensation, Wonder Man and all of them. It was a wonderful race and we were lucky to be part of it.

"The horse and jockey were brave going to the last. My God, Adrian was long there; he really fired him. He went for broke and it has come off."

Remittance Man fell when with the leading group at the third-last. The former champion, who recently returned to action at Kempton after a 15-month lay-off, finished lame on his off-hind.

His trainer, Nicky Henderson, reported: "He is very sore but he is all right. It is not his tendons and that is the main thing at the moment."

There was mayhem in the winner's enclosure again as the Irish celebrated another victory with Time For A Run in the Coral Cup Handicap Hurdle.

Owned and bred by J P McManus, the Swan-ridden seven-year-old gallantly fought off So Proud — whom Swan won on at Chepstow last Saturday — Chance Coffey and the favourite, Viardot. The winning owner said: "I was fairly confident he would get this extended trip and he will make a nice chaser next season."

Bookmakers lose argument as talking horses have last word



Foley: sparked celebrations



Andrew Longmore sees the tide turn in favour of Ireland's big-money gamblers on day two of the Cheltenham festival

Vengeance came wrapped in emerald green and stamped with a shamrock at Cheltenham yesterday. Three Irish winners, including an old-fashioned gamble which evoked memories of the great Dawn Run and a double for the legendary J. P. McManus, left the bookies battered and bruised by sundown.

When darkness threatened to engulf the final race, they were still at it, plunging head over heels for Mucklemeg, owned by McManus, the king of the Irish gamblers, in a bumper race which is an Irish speciality and a bookmaker's nightmare.

The bookies should have known. The Irish punter is never more dangerous than when he can feel the bottom of his pocket and a disastrous opening afternoon had badly drained coffers and confidence. Defeat for Danoli in the opening race would have holed the Irish economy below the waterline, but there was never any danger of it.

Danoli carried the Irish exchequer with total assurance under the inspired guidance of Charlie Swan and the cheers which greeted his return to the winner's circle reflected relief as well as joy. The owner, Dan O'Neill, a bone-setter by trade, was still walking around in a daze two hours after the race and he had not touched a drop, unlike most of his countrymen, who were tackling the Arkle Bar with the gusto of a novice hurdler. Even McManus would have allowed himself the luxury of a smile in honour of a massive recouping of the previous night's losses.

By a conservative estimate, McManus won £200,000 from Danoli's triumph, but the victory was one for the small-timer too. News of the wonder horse from Co Carlow had spread quickly down the narrow, echoing, corridors of Irish racing.

"That was the Irish banker," Seamus Mulvaney, a prominent Irish bookmaker, said. "People have known about him for months and because he comes from a little trainer and cost almost nothing, he had sentiment as well as form on his side. He was backed man and boy. You only had to listen to the reception to know that. It was like scoring the winner in the last minute of the all-Ireland final. Whatever happens now won't matter. Danoli will be the talk of Ireland."

It had been a different story at evensong on the first day as a massive but unsuccessful punt, triggered by McManus, caught bookmakers with their satchels gaping. McManus reputedly backed his own horse, Gimme Five, in the last race to the tune of £40,000. Within minutes, the price had sunk from 10-1 to 4-1 as the rails bookmakers, who absorb the big bets, hurried to lay off potential losses in the ring. McManus's coup was sweetly timed. Attention had been diverted by a stewards' inquiry on the previous race.

"It was chaos," Bob Kett, a Leeds bookmaker, said. "If that McManus backs something, everyone jumps on the bandwagon. You can feel the buzz when a big bet comes down. We were lucky not to be caught out." The only one immune to the buzz was Gimme Five, who finished well down the field. The sighs of relief from the bookmakers could be heard the other side of Gloucester.

Twenty four hours later, in the bumper, the race they call the "getting out stakes" because it is the last race on the card, McManus struck again. By lunchtime, the price of Mucklemeg had dropped from 5-1 to 2-1, reflecting an enormous dollop of cash. The bookies must have feared the worst long before the green and yellow colours of McManus stormed up the hill to complete a personal double initiated by Time For A Run.

Yesterday will be written into legend on the other side of the Irish sea and the thought will fortify the Irish for the days ahead, when things do not go so readily to order. "Horses are like humans," as one bookmaker put it, "sometimes they wake up in the morning and say 'Sod it'".

Nor will Stephen Little, one of the most prominent of the rails bookmakers, gain much consolation from being proved right. "Everyday is a dangerous day at Cheltenham," he had said earlier. "It is just that some days are more dangerous than others." Nerves will not be eased by the fact that today is St Patrick's day.

Edwards upholds festival record

By Julian Muscat

MONSIEUR Le Cure, a horse with an exciting future, displayed the perfect blend of stamina and jumping ability to run out an impressive winner of the Sun Alliance Chase. His defeat of Martomick was overshadowed on a day of exceptional performances, but, on this evidence, he could one day have the limelight all to himself.

This was a towering performance from the strapping eight-year-old, who looked anything but a novice as he bestrode Cheltenham's fences with a measured authority. In as competitive a field as can have been assembled for many years, Monsieur Le Cure moved effortlessly through the ranks before passing the favourite, One Man, leading at the top of the hill and holding off Martomick by three lengths. Peter Niven, a late substitute for the luckless Norman Williamson, handled the horse like a man inspired.

Monsieur Le Cure is typical of the sort of horse trained by John Edwards, a man with a Cheltenham record the envy of his colleagues. He bought Monsieur Le Cure as a four-year-old and has been bringing him along quietly ever since. It was, in fact, the first occasion Monsieur Le Cure had tackled an extended three miles. The 1995 Gold Cup looks a realistic target: Ladbrokes were suitably impressed and offer only 16-1.

It was his jumping that won him the spoils. Around him, Martomick, Crystal Spirit and One Man clattered into fences. As Edwards said afterwards: "I was terrified when he went to the front so far out but his jumping just took him there. He is a top class horse with a high cruising speed."

Martomick would have finished closer but for two jumping errors, both at critical stages of the race. Her trainer, Kim Bailey, was adamant that they cost her the race. "She'll definitely go to Liverpool, where she won't get beaten. Monsieur Le Cure will never beat us again," he said.

The Mildmay of Flete offered Elfast an opportunity to strengthen his Grand National credentials. He took it gladly, too, but only after losing valuable ground jumping right at the last. He had to work hard to resist Dublin Flyer's renewed thrust by three-quarters of a length,



Niven: fine spare ride

earning a 20-1 quote for Aintree in the process.

His National prospects are fair at best as he is far from certain to see out the trip. No such doubts surround Christmas Gorse, winner of the National Hunt Chase over four miles. He will be aimed at Aintree next year.

Charlie Swan completed a swashbuckling treble when Mucklemeg maintained Ireland's domination of the Festival Bumper. However, such was the strain of her three-length defeat of Aries Girl that she needed oxygen to aid her recovery. Doubtless Aries Girl tried her heart out but her jockey, Shay Barry, tried too hard and was banned for two days for his use of the whip.

Forster strikes

TIM Forster gained minor compensation for the fall of Coonawara at Cheltenham on Tuesday when Hearts Are Wild gained an impressive 30-length success in the Island Hall Novices' Chase at Huntingdon yesterday.

He completed a double with Martha's Son, who was not hard pressed to beat Jimmy The Gillie by 1½ lengths in the Hartford Novices' Chase.

THE TIMES RISING STARS

Winners from Kelso
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There's £300 of Aquascutum vouchers to be won each time there's a race in The Times Rising Stars 9 race Series.
Look out for the £5000 prize at Newbury on 25th March.

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

SEDGEFIELD

THUNDERER

2.00 Seon. 2.35 Col Buckmore. 3.15 Ballsteros. 3.50 Brigadier Davis. 4.25 Carousel Rocket. 5.00 Palacegate King. 5.35 Corporal Kirkwood.

GOING: HEAVY (SOFT IN STRAIGHT) SIS

2.00 ALLERWASH NOVICES CHASE (£2,369: 2m 110yd) (5 runners)

1	2624	SEON 7 (D,F,S,S) W Bentley 8-12-3	R Barnitty	(5)	89
2	00-PP	BITOFANATTER 47 R Baldie 8-11-3	K Johnson		–
3	0040	COOL DUDE 13 (S,S) J Johnson 8-11-3	J Callaghan		–
4	6-30	JOCK'S BURN 139 (S) G Richards 8-11-3	M Doughty		–
5	626P	HERE COMES TIBBY 7 (S) W Reed 7-10-12	Miss P Robson		86

Evens Seon, 9-4 Jock's Burn, 3-1 Cool Dude, 14-1 Here Comes Tibby, 50-1 Ballsteros.

2.35 COASTLEY NOVICES HURDLE (£1,907: 2m) (8)

1	2324	COL BUCKMORE 7'9 (S) G Richards 8-11-9	N Doughty	(5)	99
2	-610	SCARBA 10 (D,S) D Gandolfo 8-11-9	K Davies	(7)	81
3	4542	BIRD WATCHER 6 M Hammond 5-11-2	D Bentley	(5)	97
4		CAMPTOSAURUS J Johnson 5-11-2	J Callaghan		–
5	P	PRINCE BALTASAR 84 M Bycroft 5-11-2	R Barnitty		–
6		SHORE LAKE R Robinson 5-11-2	Mr R Robinson		–
7	-F58	CROSS REFERENCE 7 W Reed 5-10-11	R Hodge		67
8	4084	VOLUNTEER POINT 15 Mrs S Barrett 4-10-8	J Burke	(5)	97

13-8 Col Buckmore, 3-1 Scarba, 9-2 Bird Watcher, 8-1 Camptosaurus, 10-1 others.

3.15 BARRIER FIRE PROTECTION NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,584: 3m 1f) (12)

1	0131	ROAD BY THE RIVER 48 (S,S) P Cheesbrough 5-12-0	K Johnson		91
2	31-11	OPAL'S TENSPOT 5 (F,S,S) J Bradley 7-11-3 (bl)	R Farrant	(3)	90
3	3FSF	FINCH'S GEM 8 G Richards 8-10-11	M Doughty		84
4	U669	BIG MAC 13 (F) M Hammond 7-10-10	Mr C Bonner	(7)	94
5	5643	FOUR DEEP 8 (S,S) J Johnson 6-10-9	J Callaghan		83
6	U061	DUCHESS OF TURNER 8 (D,S) R Fisher 6-10-9 (bl)	A Thornton	(3)	93
7	PF00	BUCKWHEAT LAD 37 P Cheesbrough 6-10-7	Mr T Byrne	(5)	88
8	4402	NAWRAK 7 L Lungo 5-10-0	F Perratt	(5)	–
9	4S3U	THE POD'S REVENGE 8 (S) E Alston 9-10-0	A Procter	(3)	88
10	00SF	BALISTEROS 6 T Tate 5-10-0	R Garritty		–
11	F588	PIT PONY 8 (S,S) D Robertson 10-10-0	R Hodge		88
12	4P-P	POTATO MAN 18 Mrs S Taylor 8-10-0	D Bentley	(3)	88

5-2 Road By The River, 11-4 Opal's Tenspot, 11-2 Big Mac, Four Deep, 7-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: W Bentley, 6 winners from 28 runners, 28.6%; Mrs M Reveley, 18 from 73, 24.7%; L Lungo, 8 from 33, 24.2%; G Richards, 26 from 110, 23.6%; T Tate, 4 from 17, 23.5%; G Moore, 22 from 95, 23.2%.

JOCKEYS: N Bentley, 11 winners from 38 rides, 28.2%; N Doughty, 14 from 57, 24.6%; R Supple, 3 from 15, 20.0%; P Waggott, 6 from 37, 16.2%; R Hodge, 7 from 48, 14.6%; A Thornton, 3 from 28, 11.5%.

3.50 RIDING MILL NOVICES HURDLE (£1,769: 3m) (9)

1	4611	PORTONIA 9 (F,6,S) Mrs M Reveley 10-11-7 (bl)	M Bentley	(3)	91
2	11-0	BANNTOWN BILL 13 (S,S) L Lungo 5-10-12	F Perratt	(5)	–
3	2P12	BRIGADIER DAVIS 120 T Tate 7-10-12	R Garritty		89
4	RP	FOX TOWER 148 W Reed 8-10-12	Miss P Robson		–
5	505	LAST REFUGE 37 T Carr 5-10-12	A Thornton	(3)	82
6	P3	PRINCE ROSSINI 7 L Lungo 6-10-12	J Burke	(5)	–
7	34	SUNY BAY 75 J Upson 5-10-12	R Supple		88
8	0003	LADY BE BRAVE 2 W Storey 11-10-7	K Johnson		86
9	6FP0	ROYAL FIFE 7 Mrs S Bradburne 8-10-7	P Williams	(3)	89

2-1 Portonia, 3-1 Brigadier Davis, 7-2 Banntown Bill, 7-1 Suny Bay, 8-1 Prince Rossini, 16-1 others.

4.25 WIN WITH THE TOTE HANDICAP CHASE (£3,623: 4m) (7)

1	516P	DIAMOND FORT 19 (F,9,S) J McConnochie 9-11-7	R Bellamy		96
2	20F0	BROMPTON ROAD 9 (S,S) R Lee 11-11-5	R Greene		86
3	211P	VIVA BELLA 7 (B,BF,S) Mrs S Barnett 7-11-1	J Burke	(5)	89
4	6512	CAROUSEL ROCKET 7 (D,F,S,S) M Hammond 11-10-6	D Bentley	(3)	91
5	6622	DUBIOUS JAKE 9 (CD,F,S) R Woodhouse 11-10-4C	Woodall	(7)	92
6	2P53	FORTH AND TAY 7 (B,S) Mrs S Bradburne 12-10-3	P Williams	(3)	95
7	3414	MERLYNS CHOICE 7 (S,S) A O'Brien 10-10-0	R Supple		90

2-1 Carousel Rocket, 100-30 Dubious Jake, 7-2 Viva Bella, 6-1 Brompton Road, Diamond Fort, 10-1 Forth And Tay, 25-1 Merlyns Choice.

5.00 FALLOWFIELD CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,676: 2m) (3)

1	4381	PALACEGATE KING 7 (D,S) A Williams 5-12-2 (6ex)	B Harding	(7)	92
2	30BF	HYPNOTIST 9 (CD,6,S) W Bentley 7-10-11	N Bentley		89
3	0650	SWANK GILBERT 145 T Cuthbert 8-10-0	Carol Cuthbert	(7)	78

1-3 Palacegate King, 7-2 Hypnotist, 16-1 Swank Gilbert.

5.35 LEVY BOARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£2,015: 2m) (20)

1	0	BULLAFORD FAIR 8 W Storey 6-11-8	J Supple	(5)	–
2		PRIESTS MEADOW T Cuthbert 5-11-8	Carol Cuthbert	(7)	–
3	5	ROLY PRIOR 7 Miss L Pitter 5-11-8	Mark Roberts	(7)	–
4	0-0	SUPERVISOR 7 (B) Mrs M Kendall 5-11-8	Mrs M Kendall		–
5	0	WARREN HOUSE 47 M Hammond 6-11-8	S Lycett	(5)	–
6	41	ADIB 7 (S) G Moore 4-11-7	N Bentley	(3)	–
7		APOLLO'S DAUGHTER J Goulding 5-11-3	D Bentley	(3)	–
8	0-	PARSON'S LODGE 348 L Lungo 5-11-3	F Perratt	(5)	–
9	0	QUEEN BUZZARD 8 E Weymes 5-11-3	Mr J Weymes	(7)	–
10	0	SKI PATH 40 H Bycroft 5-11-3	G Tormey	(7)	–
11		WAR LADY M Barnes 5-11-3	P Waggott	(5)	–
12		CHALET PIERRE T Tate 4-11-0	W Fry	(7)	–
13		CORPORAL KIRKWOOD R Fisher 4-11-0	A Thornton	(3)	–
14		JASON'S BOY J Bradley 4-11-0	R Farrant	(3)	–
15		LORD DORCET J Charlton 4-11-0	J Burke	(5)	–
16		MATACHON M Smith 4-11-0	Mr S Brisby		–
17		TALL FELLOW T Tate 4-11-0	Mr W Burnell	(7)	–
18		HARRY'S MIDGET Mrs A Hamilton 4-10-9	Miss P Robson		–
19	0	OWES THE TILL 8 R Wood 4-10-9	C Woodall	(7)	–
20		SKYVAL R Robinson 4-10-9	Mr R Robinson		–

3-1 Adib, 11-2 Corporal Kirkwood, 8-1 Jason's Boy, 8-1 Tall Fellow, Warren House, 10-1 Bullaford Fair, Lord Dorcet, 12-1 others.

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

2.10 Threepenny-Bridge. 2.40 Kaler. 3.10 Prince Danzig. 3.45 Polniciana. 4.15 Can Can Charlie. 4.45 Glowing Jade.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.10 AKURA VIDEO-R P ELLIOTT CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,445: 6f) (8 runners)

1	0-0	COLIN'S PRIDE 34 C Wall 8-0	W Woods		5
2	2351	MONSIEUR PETONG 19 (CD,G) M Channon 8-11 R Palmer	(7)		1
3	-024	THREEPENNY-BRIDGE 23 (B,CD,F,G) W G M Turner 9-11	A Daly	(7)	2
4	5222	NORDICO PRINCESS 17 (D,G) J Pickering 8-5	L Dettori		4
5	5-9	ALINK 62 R Hollinshead 8-4	Paul Eddery		6
6	4128	PALACEGATE JO 12 (D,S,S) J Berry 8-4	S Carter		8
7	306-	BURMA STAR 185 M Blanshard 8-2	N Adams		7
8		DORIS DOORS Lord Huntingdon 7-13	D Harrison		3

3-1 Nordico Princess, 7-2 Threepenny-Bridge, 4-1 Doris Doors, 9-2 Monsieur Petong, Palacegate Jo, 8-1 Burma Star, 10-1 Alink, 16-1 Colin's Pride.

2.40 EVERGREEN ELLIOTT HANDICAP (£2,899: 5f) (10)

1	-311	EWALD 9 (CD,F,G) M Johnston 8-10-1 (7ex)	J Weaver		3
2	1-03	NOT SO GENEROUS 47 (CD,F,G) W G M Turner 4-10-0	A Daly	(7)	8
3	500-	LOCAL HEROINE 147 (D,F) J Berry 4-9-11	P Roberts	(7)	10
4	3103	TEE-EMM 9 (CD,G) P Howling 4-9-10	Paul Eddery		2
5	0001	HIMARI VIDEO 10 (CD,6,S) M Johnston 9-9-4 (7ex)	R P Elliott		6
6	40-4	THE NOBLE OAK 9 (B,CD,F,G) M McCormack 6-9-3	J D Smith	(7)	5
7	6-023	LIFT BOY 16 (F) A Moore 5-9-2	L Dettori		7
8	0242	LADY ROXANNE 16 (V) Lord Huntingdon 5-8-8	D Harrison		4
9	0302	KALAS 10 (B,D,F,S) V Chapman 5-8-6	M Baird	(7)	1
10	000-	ITHOURNI 343 P Hayward 5-8-0	B Bardwell		9

3-1 Ewald, 9-2 Tee-Emm, 5-1 Lady Roxanne, 7-1 The Noble Oak, 8-1 Himari Video, Lift Boy, 10-1 Not So Generous, 12-1 Kalar, 25-1 others.

3.10 A W ROBINSON BOBBY THE CAN CAN MAN HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,085: 1m 2f) (6)

1	1123	HERR TRIGGER 16 (B,C,S) J Scargill 9-7	K Rutter	(5)	6
2	1-34	PRINCE DANZIG 28 (C,S) D Murray Smith 9-6	T Quinn		4
3	3111	SURPRISE GUEST 12 (CD,S) M Johnston 9-5	J Weaver		2
4	600-	INTERACT 115 R Hannon 8-0	A McGlone		5
5	000-	POLY SCREEN 169 M Channon 8-0	A Tucker		1
6	-355	DANCING CLOWN 54 (BF) N Callaghan 7-11	M Carlisle		3

5-2 Surprise Guest, 11-4 Herr Trigger, 7-2 Prince Danzig, 4-1 Dancing Clown, 7-1 Interact, 14-1 Poly Screen.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lingfield Park: 4.15 Music Princess.

3.45 BRIAN YEARDLEY CONTINENTAL BEWARE OF BOBBY HANDICAP (£3,290: 1m 4f) (7)

1	0421	ONE OFF THE RAIL 9 (CD,G) A Moore 4-9-13 (5ex)	Mark Denaro	(7)	6
2	0610	SLIGHT RISK 19 (CD,G) P Kelleway 5-9-10	Paul Eddery		3
3	51-1	POLNICIANA 19 (C,F,S) R Hannon 5-9-7	L Dettori		2
4	-062	CASPIAN BELUGA 26 (CD,6,S) Mrs A Knight 6-9-3	J Weaver		1
5	54-6	LA MEMORONIMA 27 S Hanks 4-8-8	S Dawson		4
6	-432	MIGHTY WRATH 23 R O'Sullivan 4-7-13	D Biggs		7
7	0-08	MODESTO 23 (V,CD,G,S) K Cunningham-Brown 6-7-9	N Carlisle		5

2-1 Polnicians, 4-1 Slight Risk, 5-1 One Off The Rail, 6-1 Mighty Wrath, 8-1 Caspian Beluga, 10-1 Modesto, 16-1 La Memoronima.

4.15 BAILEYS HORSE FEEDS BYE BYE BOBBY CLAIMING STAKES (£3,080: 7f) (12)

1	5032	NASHAAT 12 (F) N Vickers 8-9-12	D Gibbs	(7)	9
2	0/	VIENNA BOUND 518 C Wall 4-9-10	W Woods		4
3	040-	JEWEL THIEF 185 G Balding 4-9-8	W Newnes		7
4	4301	LETSBEONESTABOUTIT 12 (B,CD,F,S,S) Mrs N Macauley	B-9-4L	Dettori	5
5	2508	CAN CAN CHARLIE 13 (D,G) M Johnston 4-8-2	R P Elliott		6
6	-660	PIRALLE WONDER 9 (B,CD,G) R O'Sullivan 6-9-2	D Biggs		11
7	0343	RESPECTABLE JONES 12 (CD,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 8-9-2	Paul Eddery		8
8	-000	PAIR OF JACKS 17 (V,G) W Muir 4-9-1	Kim McDonnell		3
9	4342	PRETONIO 13 (CD,F,S,S) M Johnston 6-9-0	J Weaver		1
10	-630	WAGERS DREAM 16 (V,S) Pat Mitchell 5-8-6	A Clark		12
11	0-00	THE TESTER 17 W G M Turner 3-8-2	A Daly	(7)	2
12	000-	MUSIC PRINCESS 174 (V) B Gubby 3-7-7	N Adams		10

3-1 Nashaat, 4-1 Pretonio, 5-1 Letsbeonestaboutit, Respectable Jones, 8-1 others.

4.45 BOBBY ELLIOTT MINE'S A DOUBLE AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (£2,691: 1m) (12)

1	0156-	GLOWING JADE 133 (S) M Channon 4-11-7	Miss J Winter	(3)	9
2	-002	BOLD HABIT 17 (C,F,S) I Pearce 9-11-5	Mrs L Pearce		1
3	0640	PRIME MOVER 17 (C,S) D Chapman 5-11-4	M Kneafsey	(5)	2
4	0-31	HATTA SUNSHINE 9 (C,S) A Moore 4-11-3 (6ex)	Mrs J Moore	(7)	5
5	6335	MAID WELCOME 17 (V,C,F,S) Mrs N Macauley 7-11-1	Miss A Sanders	(7)	6
6	50-3	SINGERS IMAGE 95 (D,F,S) G Balding 5-11-1	Miss K Gramey	(7)	10
7	1205	CELESTIAL CHOIR 12 (G) J Eyre 4-10-13	A Manners	(7)	7
8	-634	MISSY-S 26 (CD,F,G) B Llewellyn 5-10-11	J L Llewellyn		8
9	4021	MEDLAND 9 (CD,F,G) D Wilson 4-10-10 (8ex)	Miss D Jones		11
10	5000	CHRISTIAN SPIRIT 24 (CD,B) J Long 4-10-9	R Blyth	(7)	12
11	640-	DUKE OF BUDWORTH 220J J Spearing 4-10-9	Miss C Spearing	(7)	4
12	2-65	CONISTON LAKE 33 (F) G L Moore 5-10-8	J Keller	(7)	3

9-2 Medland, 5-1 Bold Habit, 8-1 Hatta Sunshine, 7-1 Singers Image, 8-1 Celestial Choir, 10-1 Maid Welcome, 12-1 Coniston Lake, Glowing Jade, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: N Vaughan, 4 winners from 11 runners, 36.4%; J Berry, 15 from 85, 23.1%; M Johnston, 27 from 120, 22.5%; Lord Huntingdon, 22 from 98, 22.4%; R Hollinshead, 16 from 75, 21.3%.

JOCKEYS: J D Smith, 3 winners from 9 rides, 33.3%; L Dettori, 46 from 144, 31.9%; J Weaver, 17 from 73,23.3%; R Palmer, 3 from 13, 23.1%; T Quinn, 59 from 320, 18.4%; R P Elliott, 6 from 37, 16.2%.

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Agassi finds form and new sense of purpose

FROM STUART JONES, TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
IN KEY BISCAYNE, FLORIDA

NOBODY knew what to expect from Andre Agassi here at the Lipton tennis tournament. The biggest draw in the game had lost first his coach and mentor, Nick Bollettieri, and then his ability to whip the top-spin forehands that had become the most exciting of his trade marks.

Surgery had supposedly repaired the damage to his right wrist and he had marked his comeback from a protracted lay-off with a victory in a comparatively insignificant event in Arizona. Nevertheless, he was still largely an unknown quantity when he entered the second round seeded no higher than 24th.

The doubts, including his own, have been dispelled within the past week. He has systematically worked his way past Mark Petchey, the British No 1, whose challenge looks even more impressive on reflection, Boris Becker, the No 10 seed, and Cedric Pioline, the No 8 seed, to reach the quarter-finals.

Agassi revealed that he reassessed not only his own game but also his life during the months of inactivity. "It is exciting for me to be back," he said, after beating Pioline, the finalist in last year's US Open. "Tennis is a platform which I feel I can use to excel and to make myself the most I can be.

"It has presented a lot of challenges for me which I haven't been able to overcome and I don't like that. If you knew me on a personal level, you would know that that is something I don't accept. Trying to turn myself into a genuine professional has been a big step for me and I feel like I am doing it."

Once ranked third in the world, Agassi has dropped to 31. Asked how he would rate himself on form, he declined to offer a figure. Yet he added significantly: "I know one thing for sure. I would play the world's No 30 for a lot of money if he wanted to."

His next match will not only present an even sterner challenge but is sure also to be the central attraction of the quarter-finals. He is to meet Stefan Edberg, the No 2 seed, who requested, and was granted, a wild card.

Agassi himself offered a preview. "You'll see it all out there, similar to when I played against Boris. Stefan is an incredible athlete and it will depend on whether I can hurt him from the baseline or whether he can hurt me from the net." The other quarter-finalists in the bottom half of the draw, Patrick Rafter and Jim Grabb, are both unseeded.

The women's field has been reduced to Steffi Graf and a collection of comparative unknowns. The top seed has little competition these days anyway and all of her leading rivals were eliminated on Tuesday during a sequence of the most improbable results.

Graf, who has yet to drop even a set this year, plays Lindsay Davenport, the 17-year-old, who knocked out Gabriela Sabatini. Brenda Schultz, appearing in the most significant semi-final of her career after beating Aranxta Sánchez Vicario, is to meet Natalia Zvereva, who overcame Jana Novotna.

Goran Ivanisevic, having already reached the last eight of the men's singles, was knocked out of the doubles — almost literally. He was struck on the left side of his neck by the second serve of his partner, Marc Rosset, midway through the fourth game of their match. It was no laughing matter. Rosset's serve has been clocked at 134 mph and Ivanisevic, stunned by the impact, was forced to retire.

RESULTS: Men's singles: Fourth round: J Courier (US) bt J Siemerink (Holl) 6-4, 6-1; J Grabb (US) bt A Krickstein (US) 5-7, 6-4, 7-5; G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt J Yzaga (Peru) 6-4, 6-4; P Rafter (Aus) bt M Chang (US) 6-2, 6-7, 6-2; P Korda (Cz) bt B Black (Zim) 6-1, 6-4; A Agassi (US) bt C Pioline (Fr) 6-4, 6-2. Women's singles: Quarter-finals: N Zvereva (Belo) bt J Novotna (Cz) 7-6, 7-6; S Graf (Ger) bt K Date (Japan) 6-1, 6-1.

South Africa unravel Warne's secrets

John Woodcock finds a spring in the step of the home side before it takes on Australia in Cape Town tomorrow



Cronje's confident batting is troubling the Australians. Photograph: Joe Mann / Allsport

After their unexpectedly convincing victory in Johannesburg, South Africa will go into the second Test match, which starts here today, with a greater sense of self-belief than at any time since they returned from the wilderness in November 1991.

Nothing has had more to do with this than the way they seem, for the moment anyway, to have come to terms with Shane Warne. That can change in a trice, of course, but it is something which England were nowhere near achieving when being beaten for the Ashes last summer.

Warne made a revealing comment earlier this week. "I feel burnt up," he said. He is having too much cricket, that is why. He also has a touch of tendinitis in his right shoulder that is restricting his use of the googly and limiting the extent of his spin. But most of all, the South Africa batsmen, especially Cronje, Rhodes and Wessels, have worked night and day at unravelling him.

Cronje (pronounced Cronyear) knows more or less what to expect from the trajectory of each ball Warne bowls. For one thing, the googly is flatter than the leg break. The irrepressible Rhodes picks the flipper from Warne's grip on the ball, which shows the batsman only the index and middle fingers of the bowling hand, rather than the four fingers he sees when it is a leg break. Rhodes, too, like Cronje, looks to see which way the ball is spinning in the air, something that is more easily done in Cape Town's brilliant sunshine than on a dismal day at Headingley.

Denis Compton, in his time a great player of spin bowling, said last summer that he thought England's batsmen, in their playing of Warne, should have made more use of the sweep, played late. Rhodes has been doing this with some success. Border talks of Cronje and Rhodes applying "reverse pressure"; Rhodes calls it being positive. It all has to do with approach. Border's decision to wait until the 49th over of South Africa's first innings in the first Test match and the 44th of their second before bringing Warne on conceded South Africa a major psychological advantage, or so it seemed.

Since then the Australians have withdrawn into their laager. There, they have been "talking and talking and talking" about how best to bowl at Cronje — a high compliment, indeed, to the South African — and considering how to react to being labelled as "ratbags" (Border's word), by their own press during and after the first Test match. Border believes that this universal rubbishing has brought his team closer together.

Simply in terms of class, experience and attainment, the first six in the Australia batting order are collectively far superior to South Africa's, especially now that Taylor is fit to open their innings again. Given a good pitch — and it looks a beauty — Australia are still the likelier side to build a winning total through batting first. Their last victory in South Africa, incidentally, was here at Newlands in 1966-67.

It was a different Newlands then. It has become a stadium now, but without quite losing its character. The oaks, whose shade provided one of the most idyllic settings in the world for watching Test cricket, have pretty well gone; but no-one has found a way yet of taking Table Mountain away and the ground still has an air of spaciousness and graciousness.

The groundsman since August of last year has been Andy Atkinson, formerly pitchmaker at Chelmsford and Edgbaston. He removed a few green tinges yesterday with the temperature in the 90s and nobody thinking of general elections or electoral strife. As in West Indies, cricket in South Africa at the moment is a welcome and singular unifying influence.

SOUTH AFRICA (from): K C Wessels (captain), A C Hudson, G Kirsten, W J Cronje, P N Kirsten, J N Rhodes, B M McMillan, D J Richardson, C R Matthews, P S de Villiers, A A Donald, T G Shaw, E O Simons.

AUSTRALIA (from): A R Border (captain), M A Taylor, M J Slater, D C Boon, M E Waugh, S R Waugh, I A Healy, S K Warne, M G Hughes, C J McDermott, T B A May, G D McGrath, P R Reiffel, D M Jones.

Forceful Butler avenges defeat by Finn

BY RICHARD EATON

STEVE Butler's last badminton tournament in this country before retirement brought revenge against Robert Liljequist, of Finland, at the Yonex All-England championships yesterday. Butler, from Warwickshire, who will bring to a close an international career of more than a decade at the end of this season, beat Liljequist 15-9, 15-11, in Birmingham.

However, it was a win Butler said he would rather have had three weeks ago. Then, Liljequist beat Butler in Glasgow to secure a 3-0 winning lead for Finland that denied England a place in the finals of the Thomas Cup world team championships for the first time.

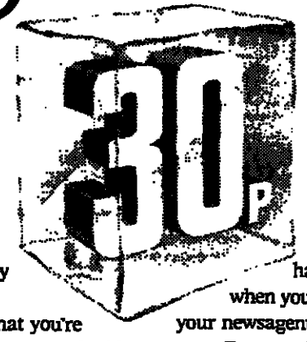
In Birmingham, Butler was a different proposition, making pushes at the end of each game and producing attacks in well-timed bursts against a durable opponent.

Butler's knee is giving him less problem than in Scotland. He was able to play rallies more patiently and to turn better on the rare occasions when it was necessary. Only briefly did he look in any difficulty, when Liljequist made a run from 6-9 to 11-10 in the second game. "I'd have exchanged it for winning the other one, but it's still great to get a win like this here," Butler said.

It was, however, a rare home success. Only two of ten Englishmen survived the first round of the singles, the other being Steffan Pandya, after the Swedish Open champion, Jens Olsson, withdrew with a back injury.

Joanne Muggeridge, the England No 1, and Suzanne Louis-Lane, the English national champion, won their opening matches in the women's singles, against Lee Joo-Hyun, of Korea, and Doris Piche, of Canada, respectively, though each dropped the first game. The best chance of an upset was provided by Peter Knowles, the England No 3, who led the seeded Thai, Sompol Kukasemkij, 12-6 and 13-8 in the final game before slipping to a 12-15, 15-10, 15-13 defeat.

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THE TIMES

IAAF optimistic in Reynolds case

FROM JOHN GOODBODY
IN FRANKFURT

THE International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) yesterday said it was "hopeful" that it would win its case against Harry "Butch" Reynolds, the world 400 metres record-holder. The IAAF has challenged the right of an Ohio court, which has awarded Reynolds $26 million in damages, to adjudicate whether the American athlete was wrongly banned for two years for taking an anabolic steriod drug.

The United States Circuit Court of Appeal heard the case last Thursday in Cincinnati and the three judges are to give their verdict within the next two months. Their ruling will have wide legal repercussions for world sport.

Istvan Gyulai, the IAAF general secretary, said: "We are hopeful we will win the case. It is in the interest of sport and justice. We do not believe that you can have the rulings of a world governing body being challenged in courts in Ohio, Coventry, Dublin, Budapest or anywhere else."

Speaking at the end of the first IAAF anti-drugs seminar, he said: "It makes it impossible for the international federations to do what they have been elected to do. It also is very important that the disciplinary decisions of all governing bodies are not overruled."

As increasing numbers of sportsmen and women are claiming redress from civil law, the Reynolds case may become a turning point and could also rid the IAAF of the problem of paying $26 million in punitive and compensatory damages. With the Olympic Games in Atlanta two years away, a decision in favour of Reynolds could lead to a flood of court cases.

Last month, the lawyer representing Tonya Harding cited the Reynolds ruling by the Ohio court in the legal moves that ensured the ice skater went to the Winter Olympics. The United States Olympic committee was considering not sending her to Lillehammer because of allegations, which she has denied, that she was involved in the attack on her rival, Nancy Kerrigan.

Reynolds has challenged the findings of a Paris laboratory that his urine sample on August 12, 1990, contained Nandrolone, an anabolic steroid. Even after he returned to international competition, winning the world indoor title in 1993, he has repeatedly claimed that he never took the drug. Reynolds was suspended for two years. Subsequently, the IAAF increased bans for offences involving hormone drugs to four years.

However, the feeling here is that the world governing body may be forced to return to two-year bans because of the difficulties encountered in civil courts in many countries.

Torrance tried by new misfortunes

FROM MEL WEBB IN SINTRA, PORTUGAL

WHEN Sam Torrance says that he has just had the worst experience of his life, it is wise to listen — for all that he has had a distinguished career in professional golf, he is also perpetually a disaster looking for somewhere to happen. He has had more nasty experiences than you could shake a stick at, but in spite of recent, and even not-so-recent, travails he has arrived here to play in the Portuguese Open, which starts at Penha Longa today.

The latest misfortune to strike the sturdy Scot, 40, was that, a couple of weeks ago, his eyes became agonisingly sore. A five-day course of antibiotics did not help, so last week Torrance went into hospital in Windsor and went under the surgeon's knife under a local anaesthetic to have five cysts removed from his eyes.

This "worst experience" had, it is fair to say, a number of stern competitors in its ascent to the top of the Torrance misfortune catalogue. There was, for example, the famous sleepwalking episode at the English Open at Forest of Arden last year, when Torrance somnambulated into a large flower pot, injured his ribs and had to pull out of the tournament.

That injury was sustained at The Belfry, where Torrance stayed for the week, and it was there, too, that the next calamity struck. This time it was a septic toe that kept him out of the singles on the final day of the Ryder Cup. He eventually had the toenail removed.

If that were not all enough, he is a lifetime martyr to psoriasis on his feet, and after suffering agonies in the Dubai Desert Classic and even worse pain in the Johnnie Walker Classic in Phuket, in Thailand, he still has strapping on his foot.

It does not, in Torrance's case, rule him out of contention in this tournament — "beware the injured golfer" is an axiom that could have been written just for him. Last year, he won three titles and nearly £510,000.

Torrance, who plays in the Indonesian Open next week before starting his preparation for his second US Masters, faces stern competition at Penha Longa from, among others, David Gilford, the defending champion, Steven Richardson, Gordon Brand Jr and Costantino Rocca. They are all, apparently, as fit as fiddles. Perhaps they should have a word with Sam Torrance and develop an injury. It is the only way to win.

Solheim Cup to allow reserves

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA

TWO words are going to dominate this women's golf season — Solheim Cup. The match, with Europe defending the trophy they won so unexpectedly against the United States two years ago, does not take place until October, at The Greenbrier in West Virginia, but preparations are already under way.

On Tuesday, the cup's executive committee, which comprises, among others, JoAnne Carner and Mickey Walker, the respective captains, Charlie Mechem and Terry Coates, who run the US and European Tours, and assorted Solheims, convened at the Moon Valley country club here before the Standard Register Ping tournament, which starts today.

The main upshot of the deliberations was that each team would be able to call up a reserve either before the match, or in certain circumstances — injury, illness or family bereavement — after the opening ceremony.

Since all ten players are due to play all three days — there will be five foursomes matches, five four-balls and ten singles — it was felt some leeway was needed in case of accidents.

Once a substitution is made, that is it, however. There will be no nonsense with sealed envelopes, as in the Ryder Cup. It then becomes a case of play or forfeit the point, in the case of the foursomes and singles, or play one against two, in the four-balls.

Walker will have *carte blanche* to choose her substitute but Carner will be limited to whoever finishes tenth in the US points table.

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Lightweight Redpath growing in stature

Alan Lorimer charts the rise of the scrum half selected by Scotland in their efforts to avoid the wooden spoon against France on Saturday

IF ever rugby union needed a role model to counter the notion of a grid-iron physique as a prerequisite for the game, then Bryan Redpath, the Scotland scrum half for the match against France at Murrayfield on Saturday, would be an ideal candidate.

At 5ft 7in and 10st 10lb, Redpath would appear to be the antithesis of the modern scrum half, but opponents who write him off as a flyweight usually end up regretting it. Small may be beautiful; in this case it is also tough, courageous and astute.

FIVE NATIONS' CHAMPIONSHIP

Redpath, 22, who takes over from the injured Gary Armstrong, has a proven track record. He has won two caps as a temporary replacement this season, against New Zealand and England, but the five nations' championship match on Saturday — the so-called wooden spoon decider — will be his first game as first-choice scrum half. He has been preferred to Andy Nicol, whose international career seemed to be clearly mapped out when, two years ago, he played in all of Scotland's five nations matches. He played twice against Australia in 1992 and was called up for the British Isles tour of New Zealand last summer.

This season things turned sour for the Dundee player, first with a difficult game against New Zealand and then a loss of sharpness which Duncan Paterson, the Scotland manager, attributed in part to playing second division rugby.

Redpath had been steadily climbing the rankings. He was the No 2 scrum half, behind Nicol, on tour with the Scotland development squad in the South Pacific last summer, and his performances in the midweek games were not unnoticed. "The tour helped me a lot," Redpath said. "It was essentially a learning process." His reward was a place in the A team against New Zealand last November and a place on the bench for the senior team. Last month, Redpath shared in the Scotland A victory over France A in Rennes.

He is in his third season as first-choice scrum half with Melrose, during which time they have won three successive McEwan's National League championships. His half-back partner and captain is Craig Chalmers, until recently Scotland's first-choice stand-off half.

It is the means by which Melrose have achieved success, rather than success itself, that have helped players like Redpath to achieve their potential. Under the coaching of Jim Telfer and Rob Moffat, Melrose have a commitment to training that few clubs in Scotland can match and which has been the key to team and individual development.

The youngest of three brothers who have all played for Melrose, Redpath, a joiner by trade, was born into the rugby culture that is so much part of the Border country and has been playing the game since the age of six. Andrew, the eldest brother, played as a flanker, and Craig, almost two years senior to Bryan, is a Scotland B cap and was the reserve full back for the senior side for the 1990 grand slam match against England.

In contrast to Armstrong, Redpath is essentially a link player, a role he has developed because of his excellent service, which is one of the quickest in the game. The twentieth player from his club to play for Scotland, he is also an all-rounder who, like Armstrong, has an appetite for tackling. That aspect of his game has improved with upper-body-strength work which is part of his training regime. "I feel I am just as strong as the bigger guys," he said.

Redpath learnt much when he played for Te Awamutu in New Zealand during the summer of 1991. There he partnered Ian Foster, who was the stand-off half for Waikato, the provincial side.

The hardness attained from playing in New Zealand and in the Borders will be needed against a French side desperate to put on a convincing show after defeats by Wales and England. They may well be rejoicing at the absence of Armstrong but in Redpath they face a different force and one which is relatively unkown to them. If the French want a reference point, perhaps they could do no better than look to Jacques Fouroux, who was dubbed "le petit general" when he led France during the Seventies. Small in stature, Fouroux was larger than life on the pitch. Scotland may have found someone similar in Redpath.



Redpath takes over from Gary Armstrong at scrum half against France

Forceful Butler avenges defeat by Finn

BY RICHARD EATON

SPORTS LETTERS

Rugby must rewrite its laws

From Mr R. A. Bradford

Sir, Reports and television highlights of the match between Bath and Wasps last Saturday highlighted the hopelessly flawed nature of rugby union. We had two of the best teams in the land — with Bath being as good a club side as is to be found on the planet — conceding 48 penalties or free kicks in a match refereed by someone of standing and experience.

When such teams criticise the referee for the standard of refereeing and the referee criticises the players for disregarding the laws, what hope is there for the game in its present form?

When is the International Rugby Football Board going to make a sensible attempt to simplify the game and remove, so far as possible, those areas in which very subjective judgments have to be made? Rugby league has succeeded but is left with an excruciatingly predictable game that is only redeemed by the superb fitness and skill of the players.

At the moment, union seems to have the worst of all worlds: any criticism is met with references to the fairly recent matches between France and Australia, but that was good in spite of the laws, not because of them.

Let us set about rewriting the laws now so that a new version can be produced as soon as the World Cup is over; ideas should be invited from every club in the rugby-playing world at whatever level, so that the feelings of all involved with rugby, not just the top echelons, can have a chance to influence the future shape of the game.

Let it be remembered that the game is for the players and a variant of rugby league is not what is required. At the moment we have a very bad and boring version of rugby league with shambolic line-outs that is becoming increasingly unrefereeable and unwatchable.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. BRADFORD,
Willoughby House,
Gainsborough Road,
Middle Rasen,
Market Rasen,
Lincolnshire.

IOC tainted by money

From Mr George Brink

Sir, I have a friend, Tadgh Slattery, who won an Olympic gold medal for swimming at Barcelona, breaking a world record in the process. That he cannot fully share this achievement with his friends and colleagues because he is deaf and subsequently mute, or that he is severely crippled from cerebral palsy, or that the medal was won at the Barcelona Paralympics, in no way detracts from his performance.

Reverently holding Tadgh's medal not only humbles me, an able-bodied, keen sportsman, into realising how great his achievement is, but is also the closest I will come to an Olympic gold medal.

When I learnt that the IOC has forced the Paralympic movement to distance itself in all ways from the Olympic movement's symbols, for the sake of maintaining the commercial viability of the Olympic rings for its sponsors, I was filled with disgust and determined never to use or consume another product that sponsors the IOC or displays the "commercially secured" Olympic symbols.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE BRINK,
145 Heath Lane,
Earl Shilton,
Leicestershire.

A sorrier tale

From Mr Sam Wilson

Sir, David Hands (Rugby Commentary, March 10) paints a rosy picture of university rugby union. I have a sorrier story to tell.

At trials for first-year students at Leeds University in October, around 200 hopefuls turned up. Now, one of the country's largest universities, with a student population of 17,500, cannot turn out 30 players each Wednesday. My hall of residence, which in the prospectus boasted a 15-year unbeaten record, will be unbeaten again this year — since we have played no matches.

A lack of coaching and organisation has meant hundreds of players (who have paid enrolment fees to the club) are left without games and are disenchanted. Many players who started the season hoping for a game each week will never play again.

Leeds have a pool of talented players, who took them to the UAU plate final against Plymouth, but those of us who do not reach the top echelons are simply discarded.

I imagine it could be much the same throughout the country.

Yours faithfully,
SAM WILSON,
Devonshire Hall,
Cumberland Road,
Leeds 6.

Girls encouraged

From Mr Courteney Owen

Sir, Mr and Mrs Helm (Sports Letters, March 3) may like to note that the English Schools' Football Association changed its constitution in 1991 from soccer for schoolboys to soccer for schoolchildren. In 1993 a sub-committee of ESFA was set up to encourage the development of girls-only football.

Around two hundred new school teams providing football for girls were started this season, most of them in the Midlands and North West, and their activities have the support of the Football Association and the Professional Footballers Association.

Mr and Mrs Helm are fortunate to live in Manchester, one of the strongest schools' football associations in the country.

Yours sincerely,
C. G. OWEN,
(Vice-chairman, National Council for Schools' Sports),
28 Deysbrook Lane,
West Derby, Liverpool 12.

Sporting culture

From Mr David Ndii

Sir, David Townsend (March 8) would have us believe that some innate ethnic attributes and material desperation are about to spur Kenya into a Test-playing nation.

If Kenyan cricket does indeed flourish thus, it will not be because "there is height and aggression aplenty in the local Masai tribe" or because playing cricket offers a "lifestyle of which most [Kenyans] can only dream" but because of increased opportunities that participation in the World Cup will generate.

The Masai are neither distinctly taller than the rest of the population nor more aggressive. This stereotyping and emphasis on material promise constitute an undeserved denigration of the strong sporting culture which, more than any factor, explains Kenya's sporting successes.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID NDII,
St Antony's College, Oxford.

Without honour

From Mr Finbarr Slattery

Sir, Certainly Dermot Weld has left his mark as a "man of the world" (Richard Evans, March 11), having now won major horse races on four continents.

Annually the sports editors of the Irish national daily, evening and Sunday newspapers select stars in ten sports. Weld was passed over by them in 1993, yet Australia turned up trumps and selected him its personality of the year — the foemost award for a sportsman in that country.

There must be something in the old adage about a prophet without honour in his own country.

Yours faithfully,
FINBARR SLATTERY,
Bramley, Orchard Close,
Killarney, co. Kerry.

Correct name

From Mr D. B. Amanda

Sir, Further to the problems of political correctness besetting the Clifton All Whites football team (report, March 5), has anyone thought of warning the New Zealand Rugby Football Union?

Yours faithfully,
D. B. AMANDA,
St Gennys, Pines Road,
Fleet, Hampshire.

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5046. They must include a daytime telephone number.

England face injury doubt over Pears

ENGLAND have coped with last-minute injury crises for most of this rugby union season — Dewi Morris before the game with New Zealand, Dean Richards pre-Scotland and Ben Clarke pre-Ireland — and they have yet another before Saturday's deciding five nations' championship meeting with Wales at Twickenham (David Hands writes).

David Pears, the Harlequins full back, could not train yesterday and, though the England medical staff are confident he will have recovered from the strained hamstring which kept him out of last weekend's club game, with Pears you can never be sure. Should Pears, who won his fourth cap in the win over France, be forced to withdraw, Ian Hunter will be given his first international in his club position of full back and Tony Underwood will return on the right wing.

"We would like David to be able to train tomorrow," Geoff Cooke, England's manager for the last time, said yesterday. "But we will give him as much time as possible."

Although Cooke's resignation comes into effect after Saturday's match, he does not sever his links completely. His seasonal report goes to the Rugby Football Union committee in April and he will remain on the World Cup working party, though he emphasised yesterday that he will play no part in selection of the England party due to visit South Africa in May.

Bentley gets second chance

TWO years after scoring a try on his debut against France, John Bentley, the former England rugby union wing, will win his second Great Britain rugby league cap against the same opposition in Carcassonne on Sunday (Christopher Irvine writes).

Skill and ingenuity have earned Bentley the right-wing berth ahead of St John Ellis, who has scored 31 tries for Castleford during the present campaign. Since leaving Sale for Leeds in 1988, Bentley, 27, has rarely looked as accomplished as he has this season for Halifax.

As the lone Halifax presence in the 17 chosen yesterday by Malcolm Reilly, the Britain coach, Bentley is there on merit, his flair for the spectacular more pronounced than that of Martin Offiah, the other wing, of late.

Of six other players recalled, the Castleford pair of Lee Crooks and Graham Steadman bring weight of experience to bear. Reilly has forgone the chance to experiment, which confirms the importance with which he views the game as the last proper gathering before the home series against Australia in the autumn.

The prospect of understandable complacency after a two-match aggregate score of 120-12 against France last year was removed by the recent struggle of Wales to contain a resurgent French side. "They were noticeably improved in all areas," Reilly said.

Although something of a surprise choice in the second row ahead of the uncapped Barrie-Jon Mather, one of four substitutes, Karl Fairbank, 30, of Bradford Northern, is in the team for ballast and experience alongside Andrew Farrell, 18, and Chris Joynt, 22.

GREAT BRITAIN: G Steadman (Castleford); J Bentley (Halifax), G Connolly (Wigan), P Newlove (Bradford Northern), M Offiah (Wigan); G Schofield (Leeds, captain), S Edwards (Wigan), L Crooks (Castleford), L Jackson (Sheffield Eagles), S Molloy (Featherstone Rovers), A Farrell (Wigan), K Fairbank (Bradford Northern), C Joynt (St Helens). Substitutes: St J Ellis (Castleford), P Moriarty (Widnes), D Powell (Sheffield Eagles), B-J Mather (Wigan). Travelling reserves: M Ford (Castleford), M Cassidy (Wigan).

FOR THE RECORD

BADMINTON

NATIONAL INDOOR ARENA, Birmingham: Yonex All England Open: Men's singles: First round: Chen Gang (China) bt C Olsen (Den) 15-5, 15-8; A Kusuma (Indo) bt T Madsen (Den) 15-11, 15-3; Ahn Jae-Cheng (S Kor) bt C Haughton (Eng) 15-4, 15-7; Foo Kok Keong (Mal) bt S Matnikov (Russ) 15-3, 15-4; P Espersen (Den) bt R Stock (Eng) 15-2, 15-2; R Sidek (Mal) bt H Yamada (Japan) 15-1, 15-1; Lee Tsong Pin (Indo) bt S Welling (Indo) 15-13, 15-5; T Suer-Lauridsen (Den) bt F Machida (Japan) 15-8, 15-8; H Susanto (Indo) bt Sun Jun (China) 15-11, 15-10; J van Dijk (Holl) bt H Fuchs (Austria) 15-11, 10-15, 15-7; S Butler (Eng) bt R Liljequist (Fin) 15-9, 15-11; D Bhattacharya (Indo) bt K Honda (Japan) 15-11, 15-2; Kim Hak-Kyun (S Kor) bt O Pongrenz (Ger) 15-8 9-15, 15-9; P Jantti (Fin) bt N Hall (NZ) 14-17, 15-8, 15-6; S Pandya (Eng) walkover J Olsson (Swe); F Permadi (Aus) bt S Flockhart (Scot) 15-3, 15-4; S Nielsen (Den) bt A Nielsen (Eng) 15-7, 17-14; Park Sung-Woo (S Kor) bt P Smith (Eng) 15-1, 15-1; Liu Jun (China) bt H Sperre (Nor) 15-11, 15-9; A Wiranata (Indo) bt T Katayama (Japan) 15-4, 15-2; H Sorensen (Den) bt Kim Chul-Joong (S Kor) 15-10, 15-12; Ong Ewe Hock (Mal) bt K Jonassen (Den) 15-8, 15-10; J Dawson (Can) bt P Vanasta (Bel) 15-3, 15-12; P Rasmussen (Den) bt S Isaac (Eng) 15-8, 15-3; S Kusasenaka (Ina) bt P Knowles (Eng) 12-15, 15-10, 15-13; J Melbom (Den) bt Kum Wai Kok (Eng) 15-10, 15-8; M Boesen (Den) bt E Lie (Nor) 15-7, 15-18, 15-12; J Jorgensen (Den) bt A Bush (Eng) 6-15, 15-11, 18-6; H Arbi (Indo) bt C Simonsen (Den) 15-6, 18-14. Women's singles: First round: L Sorensen (Den) bt M Sorensen (Den) 11-3, 12-9; M Audina (Indo) bt F Smith (Eng) 11-6, 11-2; S Jeroensin (Thai) bt A Humby (Eng) 11-3, 11-0; H Mizui (Japan) bt J Willmott (Eng) 11-1, 11-0; Y Kantika (Indo) bt L Thomsen (Den) 11-2, 11-2; J Muggeridge (Eng) bt Lee Joo-Hyun (Korea) 5-12, 11-7, 11-5; M Timur (Indo) bt J Mann (Eng) 11-3, 11-1; Zhang Ning (China) bt A Crebo (Swe) 11-2, 11-7; Ra Kyung-Min (S Kor) bt J Bradbury (Eng) 6-11, 11-3, 11-5; M Pedersen (Den) bt M Tanaka (Japan) 10-12, 11-5, 11-3; S Louis-Lane (Eng) bt D Piche (Can) 11-12, 11-3, 11-8; T Ida (Japan) walkover M Pawangadkar (Ind); Z Abdullah (Sing) bt M Andrievskaya (Russ) 11-8, 8-11, 11-6; M Hoogland (Holl) bt P Plungwech (Thai) 12-9, 11-1; S Sasaki (Japan) bt Ge Fei (China) 7-11, 12-10, 11-1.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): New York 88 Indiana 82, Miami 101 Milwaukee 94; Phoenix 119 Cleveland 108; Chicago 108 Orlando 98; Minnesota 98 Philadelphia 87; Houston 105 Portland 99; Detroit 89 Seattle 87; Los Angeles Clippers 106 Utah 105; Golden State 123 Washington 93.
EUROPEAN CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter-finals, second legs: Efes Pilsen (Tur) 73 Barcelona (Sp) 64 (Barcelona won first leg 54-53); deciding leg tomorrow); Panathinaikos (Gr) 59 Limoges (Fr) 48 (Limoges won first leg 75-69); deciding leg Athens tomorrow).

CRICKET

NEW PLYMOUTH, New Zealand: Tour match: New Zealand Academy XI 253-5 dec, Indians 96-1, abandoned (rain).

CYCLING

SAN BENEDETTO DEL TRONTO, Italy: Tirreno-Adriatico stages: Final stage (96.1mi): 1, R Pagnin (It) 4hr 38min 13secs; 2, F Fonsenalli (It) same time; 3, D Konshev (Russ) same time. Overall standings: 1, G Furlan (It) 34hr 52min 20sec; 2, E Berzin (Russ) at 47sec; 3, S Colage (It) 53.

HOCKEY

COMMERCIAL UNION UAU CHAMPIONSHIPS: Men: Final: Bristol University 2, Exeter University 2 (aet, title shared).

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB: George Wimpey British amateur championship: Quarter-finals: J Snow bt P Paterson 6-1, 6-1, 6-3; I Snell walkover T Warburg.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Detroit 5 Vancouver 2; New York Islanders 3 New Jersey 2; Washington 5 Pittsburgh 4 (OT); Calgary 7 Tampa Bay 3; Los Angeles 7 Ottawa 0.

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Lacoste British Amateur doubles championship: Final: W Boone and T Cockroft bt J Prenn and R Owen-Browne 7-15, 17-18, 15-8, 15-7, 15-7, 15-7.

RUGBY UNION

WORLD CUP: Qualifying match: Bermuda 3 United States 60.
CLUB MATCHES: Bristol 10 Royal Navy 25; Clifton 16 Army 16; Devon 20 British Police 33; Glamorgan Wanderers 9 Pontypool 29; Maesteg 46 Nantyffyllon 0; Newport 34 Abertillery 3; Northampton 34 RAF 30; Penarth 7 Cardiff 20.

TENNIS

BISHAM ABBEY: LTA under 18 International tournament: Boys' singles: First round: J Varlet (Fr) bt P Martin (GB) 7-6, 6-3; T Booker (Den) bt B Webber (GB) 6-1, 6-2; S Thoma (Lux) bt M Gorvin (GB) 6-3, 6-7, 6-2; S Pongratz (Swe) bt R Williams (Bel) 6-4, 6-1; Y Mikheev (Belarus) bt J Trotman (GB) 3-6, 6-2, 6-1; M Boulding (GB) bt N Hansen (Den) 6-2, 6-4; E Georgandis (Gre) bt J-A Tinkler (Den) 7-5, 6-2; L Milligen (GB) bt S Cabrera (GB) 6-3, 6-1. Girls' singles: First round: I Taesch (Fr) bt E Smith (GB) 6-2, 6-4; S Lychnie (GB) bt J Bourova (Czech) 6-3, 6-3, C Soubie (Fr) bt L Fleicher (GB) 6-0, 6-2; S Pestieau (Bel) bt J Fitzgerald (GB) 6-3, 6-3; J Dawson (GB) bt E Langley (GB) 6-2, 6-0; N Dechy (Fr) bt A Tordoff (GB) 2-6, 6-2, 6-2; S Turner (GB) bt A Giacopelli (Peru) 6-4, 6-4; R Videss (Hun) bt J Taylor (GB) 6-2, 6-1.

YACHTING

WHITBREAD ROUND THE WORLD RACE: Fourth leg (Auckland, New Zealand, to Punta del Este, Uruguay). Maxi class: 1, New Zealand Endeavour (G Dalton, NZ) 21days 2hr 26min; 2, Merit Cup (P Fehlmann, Switz) 21:06:45; 3, La Poste (E Tabarly, Fr) 21:12:35. Overall after four legs: 1, New Zealand Endeavour, 84:16:58; 2, Merit Cup, 85:12:05; 3, La Poste, 87:00:10. Whitbread 60 class: 1, Intrum Justitia (L Smith, Eur) 21:02:31; 2, Tokio (C Dickson, NZ) 21:07:29; 3, Yamaha (R Field, NZ) 21:07:37; 4, Galica '93 Pescanova (J de la Gandara, Sp) 21:10:38; 5, Winston (S Butterworth, US) 22:02:26; 6, Brooksfield (G Melero, It) 22:05:47; 7, Heineken (D Riley, US) 22:16:40; 8, Dolphin & Youth Challenge (M Humphries, GB) 22:17:21 9, Helman Sahadachny (E Platon, Ukr) 22:22:21. Overall after four legs: 1, Tokio, 84:18:55; 2, Intrum Justitia, 85:09:08; 3, Yamaha, 4, Galica '93 Pescanova, 85:18:55, 5, Winston, 88:07:54; 6, Brooksfield, 92:17:56; 7, Heineken; 94:10:17; 8, Dolphin & Youth Challenge, 96:10:17; 9, Helman Sahadachny, 96:11:17. Other positions (at 11:00 GMT yesterday, with rates to Punta del Este): Whitbread 60 class: 10, Odesse (A Verbe, Ukr) 32m. Maxi class: 4, Uruguay Natural (G Vanzini, Uru) 52.
☐ Results supplied by BT.

FIXTURES

FOOTBALL
PONTINS LEAGUE (7.0): First division: Notts Co v Derby. Second division: Barnsley v Manchester C; Bradford v Preston; Oldham v Mansfield; Stoke v Rotherham.
FA YOUTH CUP: Grimsby v Bradford.
JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Cornard v Chatteris.
KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Afan Lido v Ton Pentre (7.30).
BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Group A: Cork v Shelbourne (3.30); Shamrock v Derry (3.30). Group B: Cobh v Monaghan (3.0); Dundalk v Drogheda (3.30); Limerick v St Patrick's (3.30).
OTHER SPORT
BADMINTON: All-England championships (NEC, Birmingham).
BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Derby v Leicester (8.0); Thames Valley v Birmingham (Wembley Court, 7.0); London Towers v Oldham (8.0).

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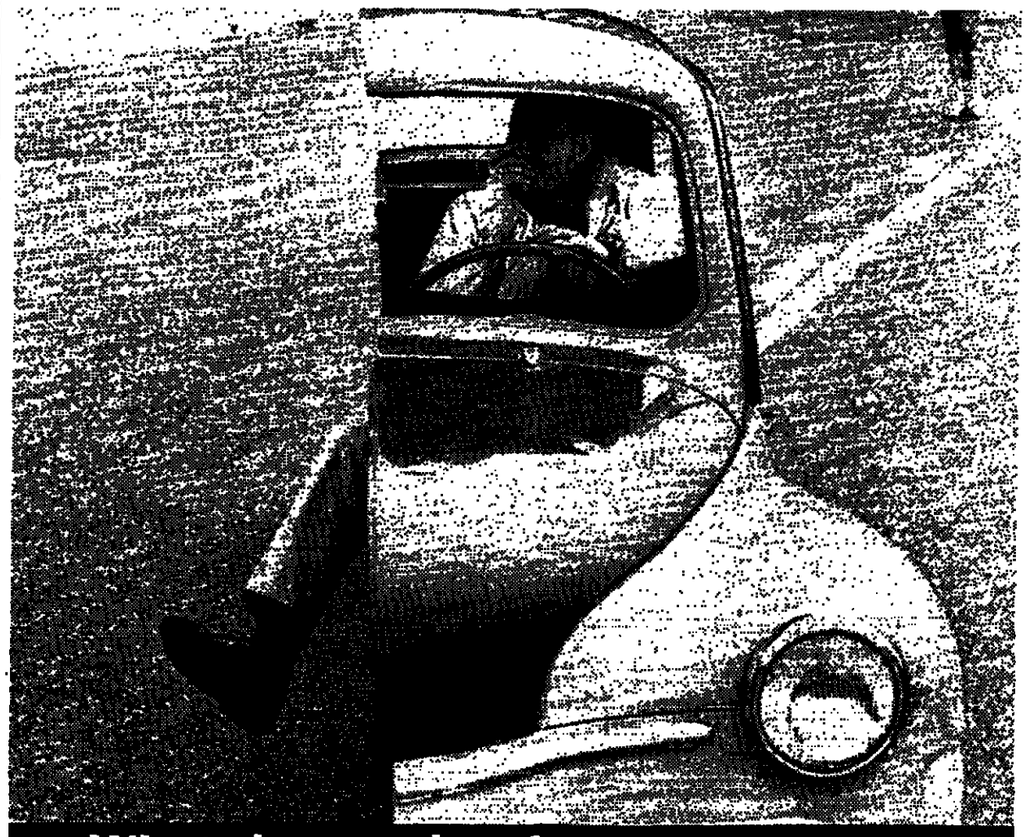
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Country pursuit not for the faint of heart

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

TEAM chasing, which started a new season last month, is about to come of age. It is 21 years next month since Douglas Bunn, the owner of Hickstead, was asked by the BBC if he could come up with "something different" to enhance television coverage of his Easter meeting.

Bunn was quick to respond. "They wanted a spectacle so I hit on the idea of a team chase — five riders galloping flat out over a one-and-a-half mile course of natural cross-country fences. The time of the fourth rider across the finishing line decided the team's score."

Neither Bunn nor the BBC realised what a spectacle it would be. George Goring, a London hotel owner, who rode in Bunn's team, remembers "a horrific" course. "One fence stood at 5ft 3in and there were some huge solid rails on and off the runway. You just closed your eyes and kicked on."

Ryan Price, the trainer, went round in a cloth cap. Nick Skelton, the show-jumper, fell at the last. Only six out of the 20 invited teams finished.

Bunn gave up his team event four years later but by then the sport had taken root. Teams, now reduced to four riders, sprouted overnight. Lord Oaksey rode for the Tory Party. David Tatlow, a producer of show horses, led The Ratcatchers, for which the Prince of Wales competed. Harry Johnson, a Yorkshire farmer, made frequent raids south with his Hunting Farmers. Rivalry was intense and "kick-on" was the watchword.

> 'You don't have to be an expert rider. Just stick on and let the horse get on with it'

For Goring, who formed his own Boring Gorings team in 1977, the sport offered a happy compromise. "I was tired of never winning a point-to-point and my daughter always beat me at show jumping. Team chasing was something I could do. You don't have to be an expert rider — you've just got to stick on and let the horse get on with it. In the early days we either all fell or we won. Since then we've matured."

The sport has also matured. There are now 60 fixtures during the year, most of them organised by local hunts, with between 150 and 200 horses competing at each. The national championships, sponsored by the Goring Hotel, take place on March 27 near Chipping Norton.

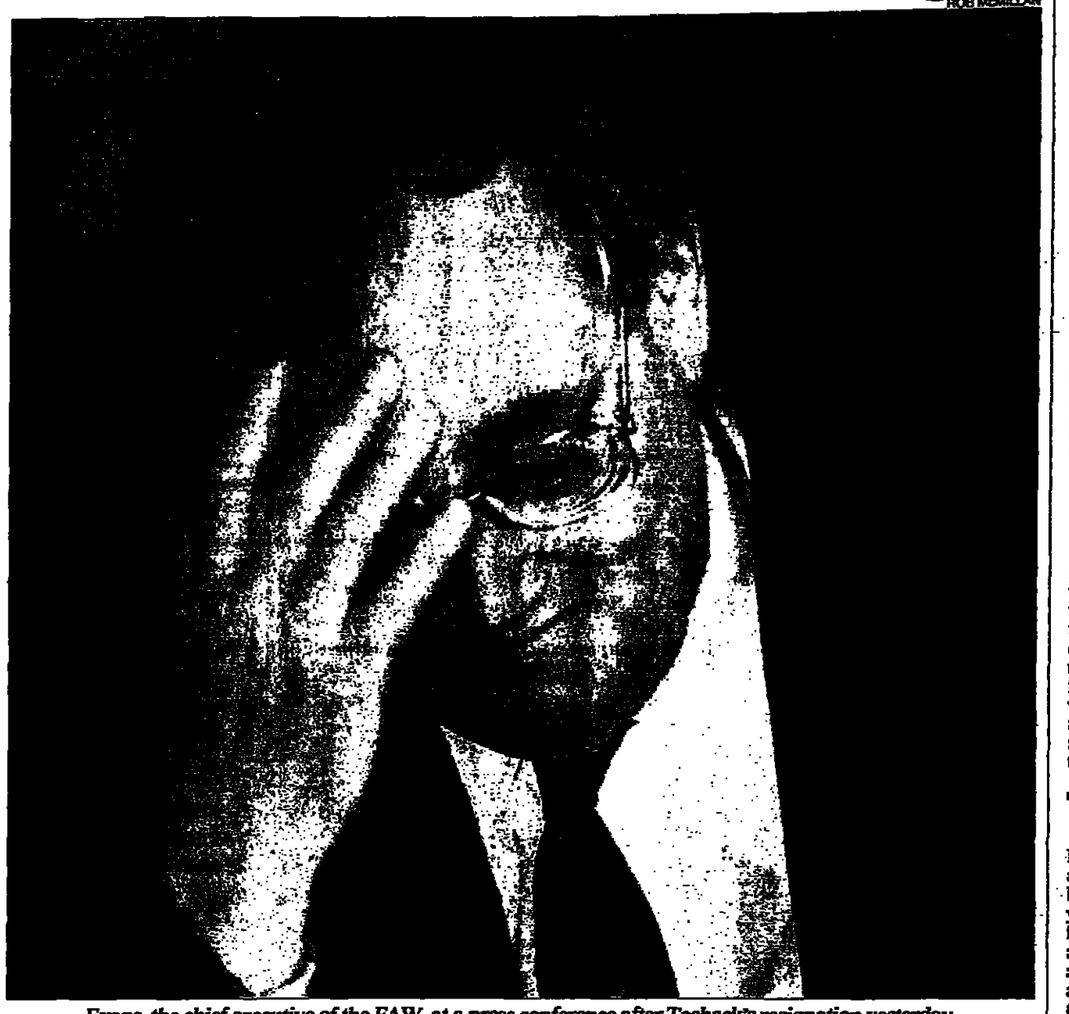
Despite its popularity, the sport is in no danger of losing its amateur status. Prize-money is modest. The national championships offer a £1,000 first prize and for open classes it is around £400.

But it is not for faint hearts. "It's a very aggressive sport". Steven Gittins, 40, an Oxfordshire farmer who rides in the successful Fosse Manor Hotel team said. "You don't start off quietly and get warmed up, you're going at it full tilt from the start."

He prefers thoroughbred ex-event horses. "They've got the brain to gallop at fixed obstacles." Goring, 55, is less particular. "It doesn't matter so much about the breeding but the horse must have courage and never stop. They become very good at sorting out their own salvation."

Farce with Evans centre stage

Keith Pike assesses the implications of John Toshack's decision to resign after 48 days as coach of Wales



ROB McMILLAN

Evans, the chief executive of the FAW, at a press conference after Toshack's resignation yesterday

Football is no stranger to farce. The capacity of highly-paid players, mealy-mouthed managers and, especially, hapless administrators to hold themselves up to ridicule seems limitless. And, at times, quite shameless.

Take events at Old Trafford last Saturday: a Charlton Athletic player threatens to score, the Manchester United goalkeeper hurtles 20 yards outside his area to launch a two-footed, limb-threatening tackle and, for good measure, handles to prevent a goal. Cue red card, contorted faces and, even when time for measured consideration had elapsed, not the faintest whiff of contrition.

The goalkeeper was aghast, not at his indiscretion but his punishment. His manager kept a straight face as he claimed the referee would be embarrassed when he saw the video. He did, and he wasn't. Nor were many others fooled by the protestations.

Go back a few months. There was Peter Swales refusing to fall on the swords awaiting him at Maine Road and Lancaster Gate, until nudged on to one by public pressure and allowed to sidestep the other by his FA colleagues. Farce? Brian Rix would have had a field day.

Then there is the Football Association of Wales (FAW), and in particular Alun Evans, an ostrich in a two-piece suit yesterday as he proclaimed that all was well in the world of Welsh football. The fact that John Toshack, coach for 48 days, had just resigned, and that the world adjudged it one of the biggest shambles in the Principality's sporting history, was apparently no more than a minor inconvenience. "Perhaps our PR has been naive, but I don't think it goes beyond that," Evans said.

Evans, surely, has to go. He might be into his second decade as the FAW supremo and he might, last November, have swapped the title of secretary for chief executive with an accompanying improved and extended contract. He might also be hard working with impeccable motives. But the tide of opinion must eventually sweep him away.

The Wales players, who have been publicly quite restrained, are privately, almost to a man, still seething over the departure of Terry Yorath, Toshack's predecessor. The Welsh public, who chanted "We want Evans out" as well as "We want Yorath back" at Ninian Park last week, are no more Evans-friendly. And, most important of all, some of Evans's colleagues on the FAW are turning against him.

There are times when the best form of PR is to say nothing, and the night of November 17 in Cardiff proved that Evans does have some grasp of that. Pursued around the corridors of the National Stadium by journalists seeking information about the death of a supporter killed by a rocket flare fired across the ground, Evans wisely kept quiet and left the briefings to the police.

But it has not always been so, most embarrassingly during the cloak-and-dagger manoeuvrings that ended with Toshack's appointment. While claiming that he had been tucked up in bed with a migraine, Evans had in fact spent two days in Spain negotiating with Toshack. He might have got away with it even then, had he not apparently given the same excuse to a prominent FAW member who was also — or so he thought — heavily involved in the decision-making process.

It was the treatment of Yorath, though, that put Evans in the firing as well as the hiring line. That the two men did not see eye to eye was apparent, and when a missed penalty and subsequent defeat against Romania confirmed that Wales, yet again, would not qualify for the World Cup finals, the FAW seized the chance.

Citing Yorath's perhaps ill-advised request for a nonetheless modest salary increase, the FAW first refused to offer him a new contract, and then invited him to reapply for his old job. Yorath was, Evans insisted, very much in contention, yet at the same time abortive attempts were being made to secure first Terry Venables, and then Bobby Robson, for the post. It was, in Yorath's words, "humiliation beyond reason".

Now the experiment with a part-time coach has gone swiftly and horribly wrong. "Our credibility," one FAW member said yesterday, "has been shot to pieces." A farce? "Welsh football has been turned into a laughing stock". It should not now be a question of if Evans goes, but when.

Arsenal await reward

BY ROB HUGHES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

LAST FOUR

Arsenal (England)
Benfica (Portugal)
Parma (Italy)
Paris Saint-Germain (France)

ARSENAL will learn tomorrow their reward, perhaps their fate, for taking British football to the semi-finals of the European Cup-Winners' Cup. When the draw takes place in Berne, George Graham's side, the holders, Parma, Paris Saint-Germain, and Benfica will be in the hat.

By anybody's standards, as George Graham, the Arsenal manager, suggested, they are the prime quartet in any European tournament this season. There will be a step up in quality and, hopefully, style.

For Arsenal the bruises are just coming out. David Hillier was left with eight stitches in his ankle, a legacy of a combative second leg at Highbury on Tuesday night. Then, attrition was on the menu, and patient Arsenal outwilled the troubled Turin club which, also in Berne tomorrow, will be called to account for allegedly attempting to bribe a referee and his linesmen with prostitutes. Whatever the outcome of that, Arsenal spared Uefa some embarrassment by eliminating Torino.

Quite comfortably if combatively, they have helped to put Torino into an even deeper financial mire; however, organised boredom will not triumph over Parma, if the two should meet in the semi-final. The Italians, victors over Ajax of Amsterdam yesterday, took AC Milan to pieces in the so-called European Super Cup just over a month ago, and Parma have technique and guile aplenty.

Their attack is cosmopolitan. Tomas Brolin, the Swede, scored one of the two goals that eliminated Ajax, and he links with the leggy, swift Colombian, Faustino Asprilla, and Alessandro Melli. The stunning free kicks of GianFranco Zola are another danger.

If it is not to be Parma, then the other contenders are also interesting. Tony Adams is rightly proud of his powerful header that broke the deadlock against Torino, and perhaps England's captain-in-waiting now David Platt is being withheld by Sampdoria at the time of the match against Germany in Berlin.

But he would be stretched on the ground to cope with George Weah, the former African player of the year, who leads the attack and the goalscoring of Paris Saint-Germain. Weah was the thief whose goal defeated Real Madrid at the Santiago Bernebéu stadium before, in the return match at Parc des Princes on Tuesday, Madrid drew level after a shot from Fernando Hierro struck his colleague, Emil Butragueno, and wrong-footed the Paris club's goalkeeper. But David Ginola produced another of his redoubtable surges, and Ricardo Gomes, the Brazilian defender, forced home a fortunate winning goal.

Arsenal may be waiting for a return to Highbury of Benfica, having accused themselves of being "gungho" and too adventurous when they had drawn 1-1 in Benfica's Stadium of Light, and were then defeated in extra time at home.

Benfica have not lost the art of escapology, however. They travelled to Bayer Leverkusen in Germany on Tuesday, again all square, at 1-1, after the match in Lisbon. They were two goals down to Ulf Kirsten and the venerable Bernd Schuster, recovered to go 3-2 ahead, slipped behind 4-3, and moments from the final whistle their Russian midfield player, Vassili Kulkov, popped up to score his second goal of the night, to square the tie at 5-5, and to give Benfica a passage to the semi-finals by virtue of away goals.

Coca-Cola agrees £3m sponsorship

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

COCA-COLA is to sponsor the Scottish League Cup for a total of £3 million over the next four years. The deal dovetails with the company's backing for the English version of the competition. In Scotland, the tournament was known as the Skol Cup for ten years until Alloa Brewers withdrew support in 1992.

The decision to let the tournament languish without a brand name this season was a result of the Scottish football authorities' refusal to accept less lucrative offers of sponsorship, believing that the standing of football should be maintained, even if that policy led to a drop in revenue in the short term.

"We were talking to two companies," Scottish football's commercial director, Bill Wilson, said "and could have sold at a much-reduced price."

Of the leading competitions, only the Scottish League itself lacks a brand name, even though, until 1992, it was sponsored by B & Q. It seems likely, however, that there will be a successor in place by the start of next season. Discussions are already taking place with the whisky firm, Bell's.

David Platt is still uncertain whether he will be available to lead England in their second international under Terry Venables when they meet Germany in Berlin next month. Platt, captain for the 1-0 defeat of Denmark at Wembley last week, is wanted by his club, Sampdoria, to play in the first leg of the Italian Cup final on the same day as England's meeting with the world champions.

Platt, who scored the winning goal against the Danes, said yesterday: "I only became aware of the fixture clash this week and have not yet spoken to Terry Venables. I have, though, spoken to the Football Association and people there are trying to seek clarification of the situation."

However, the FA's spokesman, David Bloomfield, said: "David can only have the situation clarified by talking to Terry and even we cannot do that at the moment. He is away — out of contact."

It seems likely, however, that Venables, the England coach, will seek to avoid a dispute with Sampdoria and appoint Tony Adams, of Arsenal, as his captain for the game in Berlin, leaving Platt to face Ancona with his club.

England prepare for Pakistan encounter

THE Great Britain hockey team faces its first big test this year as the Champions Trophy tournament begins in Lahore today with all six teams in action (Sydney Friskin writes). Over the next week, Britain will face Australia, Germany, Holland, Pakistan and Spain, and David Whitaker, coach of the 1988 Olympic gold medal-winning team, struck a note of caution when he said: "We shall go into each match with the will to win, although how it will turn out remains to be seen."

Looking ahead, he added: "The players have set themselves their own objectives starting from now to the World Cup in Sydney at the end of the year and beyond." On arrival in Lahore yesterday after a tiring journey, the British players went straight into training for the match against Pakistan today. Australia, who have won this trophy six times, take on five-time winners Germany in today's showpiece match with both being expected to reach the final.

Burt earns bronze

PARALYMPICS: Richard Burt brought Britain's medal tally to five at the Winter Games in Lillehammer yesterday, winning the bronze in the B3 giant slalom (Alix Ramsay writes). After a poor first run, when he accidentally opened the start game and set the timer running before he began his descent, Burt and his guide, Keith Hockley, skied better on the tighter second run to maintain their third place. Burt finished more than ten seconds behind the gold medal-winner, Brian Santos, of the United States, who took his third gold medal of the Games. Santos came in nearly three seconds ahead of Bruno Oberhammer, of Italy, who won his third silver medal in a row.

Thomson takes charge

BOWLS: A flurry of big counts late in the day gave England a 120-105 victory over Wales in the opening match of the 1994 home international series at Rushcliffe, Nottingham, yesterday (David Rhys Jones writes). Andy Thomson, fresh from his triumph in the world indoor singles championship at Preston, struck the decisive blow, claiming a five to break a 95-95 deadlock. Until then, the Welsh defence had appeared solid, but after that it fell away and the English took control. The Welsh will play the defending champions, Scotland, today.

Brown captures record

SWIMMING: Rebecca Brown, 16, broke the women's 200 metres breaststroke world record by more than half a second at the Australian national championships in Brisbane yesterday. Brown's time of 2min 24.76sec beat the previous record set in 1992 by Anita Nall, of the United States, by 0.59sec. She was ahead of world-record pace at each turn and her lead was never seriously threatened. Brown, who came within 0.05 seconds of the world record at the Queensland championships in January, is Australia's first female swimming world record-holder for 15 years.

New Zealand consoled

CRICKET: New Zealand picked up a consolation victory in the fifth and final match of their one-day series against Pakistan in Christchurch yesterday, cruising to a seven-wicket win over the touring party. With the series already decided — Pakistan won the first three games and the fourth was drawn — New Zealand ended a disastrous run thanks to a century partnership between Blair Hartland and Shane Thomson. New Zealand sent Pakistan in to bat and restricted them to 145 for nine in their 50 overs. New Zealand won with 15 overs to spare.

Paterson frozen out

REAL TENNIS: Julian Snow, the world's leading amateur, reached the semi-finals of the George Wimpey British championship with a tactical victory over the rapidly improving Peter Paterson, of Petworth. Snow made hardly any unforced errors in the opening two sets, and it was only when Paterson went on the attack, volleying more forcefully and cutting the ball severely on the floor, that he put the favourite under pressure. He nevertheless went down 6-1, 6-1, 6-3. Snow next meets the winner of the match between Peter Jarvis and Mark Howard, the No 4 seed.

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WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 44

VECORDIOUS

(a) Crazy, mad, senseless, foolish, from the Latin *vēcors, vēcordia* with the same kind of meanings. "Go ahead and choose the colours for the lounge, darling. I know you can be relied on to pick something utterly vecordious without any help from me."

ZOOPERY

(b) Experimentation on primitive animals, from the Greek *zōon* an animal + *peir-* root of "try, experiment, test": "Having trouble with the Lower Fourth, Smithers? Try a little zoopery. Tell them they can watch a pornographic video once they have mastered the subjunctive."

AYMARA

(c) (A member of) an Indian people mainly inhabiting the plateau lands of Bolivia and Peru near Lake Titicaca, also the language of this people. From the Bolivian Spanish, cf. Spanish *aimará*: "The descendants of the original peoples of the Inca Empire — the Quechuas and the Aymaras."

DIGBY

(a) A dried or cured herring of a type caught at Digby, a seaport of Nova Scotia, in full *Digby chicken* or *chick*: "A variety of small herrings or pilchards, which are smoked and dried for export; they have a high flavour, and are known in trade as *Digbies*."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qb5! Qxb5 2 c8/Q+ Kf7 3 Qxe6+! Kxe6 4 Nc7+ and 5 Nxb5.

TUESDAY'S CUP RESULTS

EUROPEAN CUP-WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-finals, second legs: Arsenal 1 Torino 0 (Arsenal won 1-0 on agg); Paris Saint-Germain 1 Real Madrid 1 (Saint-Germain won 2-1 on agg); Bayer Leverkusen 4 Benfica 4 (agg 5-5; Benfica won on away goals).
UEFA CUP: Quarter-finals, second legs: Eintracht Frankfurt 1 Salzburg 0 (aet; agg: 1-1; Salzburg won 5-4 on pens); Juventus 1 Cagliari 2 (Cagliari won 3-1 on agg).
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Birmingham City 0 Leicester City 3; Bristol City 0 Oxford United 1; Middlesbrough 1 Southend United 0; Millwall 2 Charlton Athletic 1; Portsmouth 3 Wolverhampton Wanderers 0; Tranmere Rovers 2 Stoke City 0; Watford 0 Grimsby Town 3. Second division: Bournemouth 3 Cardiff City 2; Exeter City 1 Bristol Rovers 0; Fulham 3 Barnet 0; Hull City 0 Wrexham 0; Leyton Orient 1 Brentford 1; Port Vale 1 Huddersfield Town 0; Reading 1 Bradford City 1; Rotherham United 0 Plymouth Argyle 3; Stockport County 1 York City 2; Swansea City 4 Cambridge United 2. Third division: Chester City 2 Walsall 1; Hereford United 0 Chesterfield 3; Lincoln City 2 Colchester United 0; Northampton Town 2 Preston North End 0; Scunthorpe United 2 Crewe Alexandra 1.
GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Kettering 2 Slough 0; Runcorn 1 Gateshead 1; Stalybridge 1 Altrincham 3; Woking 0 Bromsgrove 0.
SCOTTISH CUP: Fifth-round replays: Aberdeen 2 St Johnstone 0; (Aberdeen play Dundee United in semi-finals); Dundee United 2 Airdrieonians 0 (Dundee United play Aberdeen).
SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Raith Rovers 3 Kilmarnock 2. Second division: Alloa Athletic 1 Queen of the South 0; East Stirling 1 Meadowbank Thistle 0.
DRINKWISE CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Northwich 0 Macclesfield 0 (agg: 1-2).
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Everton 2 Bolton 2.
NEVILLE OVENDEN COMBINATION: First division: QPR 0 West Ham 3.
KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Inter Cardiff 1 Briton Ferry 1. Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Caerwys 0 Bangor 2.
SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Newry 2 Lame 0; Willkinson Sword League Cup: Quarter-finals: Crusaders 3 Portadown 1; Distillery 1 Ards 2.
DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Dorking 1 St Albans 2. First division: Abingdon Town 0 Barking 1; Billericay 0 Heybridge 4; Bognor Regis 1 Tooting and Mitcham 1; Boreham Wood 10 Croydon 0; Wembley 1 Purfleet 1; Whyteleafe 6 Ruislip Manor 2; Windsor and Eton 1 Berkhamsted 3. Second division: Aldershot Town 4 Ware 0; Barton 2 Aveley 0; Newbury 4 Hampton 2; Thame 0 Banstead 1; Tilbury 2 Metropolitan Police 3. Third division: Bracknell 3 Cove 1; East Thurrock 2 Tring 0; Harefield 1 Horsham 0; Kingsbury 1 Royston 2. Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Marlow 1 Enfield 1. Semi-final, second leg: Chertsey 2 Carshalton 1 (Chertsey win 5-1 on agg).
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Midland division: Bedworth 1 Bridgnorth 3; Grantham 2 Armitage 2; King's Lynn 0 Tamworth 0; Weston-super-Mare 3 Leicester United 0. Southern division: Baldock 1 Ashford 1; Buckingham 0 Dunstable 1; Erith and Belvedere 0 Sudbury 2; Poole 1 Fareham 1
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare 3 Ossett Albion 0; Belper 1 Sheffield 2; Pickering 3 Liversedge 1.
CARLING NORTH-WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Flixton 0 Bacup 5; Glossop 1 St Helens 0; Maine Road 0 Blackpool Rovers 1; Skelmersdale 0 Prescot 1; Salford 1 Bradford Park Avenue 3. Tennents Floodlit Trophy: Semi-finals, first legs: Burscough 1 Boothe 1; Nantwich 1 Atherton LR 3.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
ANDORRA								
Soldeu	100	190	fair	heavy	slush	fine	1	13/3
Good piste skiing throughout resort until 2pm								
AUSTRIA								
Kitzbühel	0	90	fair	heavy	worn	cloud	8	16/3
Light overnight snowfall freshening slopes								
Mayrhofen	35	65	good	spring	closed	cloud	9	4/3
Excellent skiing on glacier at Hintertux								
Obergurgl	80	130	good	varied	slush	fine	3	6/3
Excellent piste skiing in cooler conditions								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	115	300	good	fair	good	fine	4	12/3
Good off-piste skiing in isolated areas								
Flaine	60	260	fair	varied	worn	fine	2	13/3
Good spring skiing on sound base								
Megève	10	135	fair	heavy	worn	cloud	8	24/2
Plenty of snow on quiet upper pistes								
Tignes	125	285	fair	spring	slush	fine	0	3/3
Fine spring skiing in colder temperatures								
ITALY								
Livigno	80	190	good	open	spring	sun	-3	4/3
Great piste skiing on north-facing slopes								
SWITZERLAND								
C Montana	20	150	fair	varied	worn	fine	8	24/2
Many worn patches on runs under 2000m								
Klosters	5	145	good	varied	fair	cloud	9	16/3
Early morning snow improving all slopes								
Mürren	35	160	fair	heavy	fair	fine	7	6/3
Still excellent skiing on Schilthorn/Birg								
Villars	5	150	hard	heavy	closed	cloud	5	6/3
Hard-packed runs difficult in low cloud								
Zermatt	10	110	good	fair	poor	fine	1	3/3
Wonderful spring skiing in afternoon								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (11456)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (84350398)

9.05 Kilroy. A topical studio debate (s) (8672098) **9.45 Newshound.** Current affairs quiz (s) (5142730)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (5111104) **10.05 Playdays** (r) (s) (8681562)

10.30 Good Morning . . . with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine programme (s) (91669746)

12.15 Pebble Mill with Alan Titchmarsh (s) (1918659) **12.55 Regional news** and weather (20489104)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (39291)

1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (67479630)

1.50 Cheltenham Festival. Live coverage of the 2.15, 2.50 and, at 3.30, the Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup. The 4.05 race is on BBC2 (s) (97904123)

3.50 Noddy (r) (s) (9860388) **4.00 Batfink** (3944681) **4.05 Popeye and Son** (5728727) **4.20 Mud.** (Ceefax) (s) (9533340) **4.45 Monkey Island** (s) (2875036) **4.55 Newsround** (2864920) **5.05 Blue Peter.** (Ceefax) (s) (4694727)

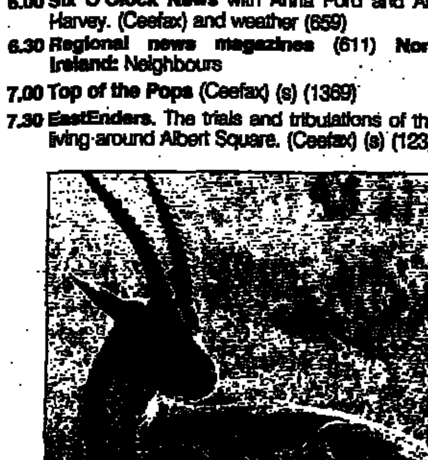
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (859630) **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. (Ceefax) and weather (659)

6.30 Regional news magazines (611) **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 Top of the Pops (Ceefax) (s) (1369)

7.30 EastEnders. The trials and tribulations of the folk living around Albert Square. (Ceefax) (s) (123)



A rare calm for a Thomson's gazelle (8.00pm)

8.00 Wildlife on One: A Graze with Danger. David Attenborough narrates this film following the dainty Thomson's gazelles as they travel across hostile territory in their perilous search for fresh grass (r). (Ceefax) (s) (6807)

8.30 Nelson's Column. Comedy series starring John Gordon Sinclair as a local newspaper reporter. (Ceefax) (s) (9524)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Peter Sissons. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather (5920) **9.30 Emergency Appeal** on behalf of the Disasters Emergency Committee for the victims of the former Yugoslavia (s) (329456)

9.35 Crimewatch UK. Nick Ross and Sue Cook present reconstructions of some unsolved crimes. (Ceefax) (279630)

10.20 Question Time. David Dimbleby's guests in Cardiff are John Redwood, MP, Secretary of State for Wales, MPs Dr Kim Howells and Ieuan Wyn Jones, and Liz Symons, general secretary of the the First Division Association (150291) **Wales:** *The Slate* **10.50** Question Time **11.50** Crimewatch UK Update **12.00** Jonathan Ross Presents **12.30-12.50am** Cheltenham Festival

11.20 Crimewatch UK Update (582746)

11.30 Jonathan Ross Presents. Chris Isaak talks to the chat show host (s) (70843)

12.00 Cheltenham Festival (s) (8906499)

12.20am Weather (3672234). Ends at **12.25**

2.45-3.30 BBC Select: Benefits Agency Today (9349857) **3.00** RCN Nursing Update (79050)

BBC2

6.20 Open University

8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax) (4710659)

8.15 Westminster Daily (3141475)

9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **1.20** Fiddley Foodle Bird (s) (85686730) **1.30-1.40** Johnson and Friends (s) (23624577)

2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Numbertime** (r) (s) (47848475)

2.20 OK2 Talk Feelings. One man's experience of sexual jealousy (r). (Ceefax) (61647307) **Northern Ireland:** North Down Journey **2.25-3.15** Northern Ireland Question Time

2.30 Advice Shop. A report on loan sharks (s) (272)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather followed by **Westminster Live** (Ceefax) (6577765) **3.45 News** (Ceefax) and weather (9861017)

3.55 Cheltenham Festival continued from BBC1.Live coverage of the 4.05 (s) (7709253)

4.30 People of the Valley. Welsh language drama series with English subtitles (956) **Wales:** Mere Strangers

5.00 All in the Mind. Quiz show (s) (2475)

5.30 From the Edge. Current affairs magazine from a disabled viewpoint (Ceefax) (388)

6.00 FILM: East of Sumatra (1953) starring Anthony Quinn as the chief of a small Pacific island who clashes with a mining engineer (Jeff Chandler). Directed by Budd Boetticher (47369)

7.30 First Sight: Divide and Rule. A report on the BNP's chances of winning more seats in the local elections (765) **Wales:** Week In Week Out; **East:** Matter of Fact; **Midlands:** Midlands Report; **North, North-east, North-west:** Close Up; **West:** Close Up West

8.00 Life with Fred: Early Days. As the fearless Fred prepares to fell the next to last mill chimney in Bolton, he looks back at his boyhood ambition to preserve them. (Ceefax) (8659)

8.30 Top Gear. Includes a road test of the latest small car from Fiat. (Ceefax) (s) (1974)



Dawn French with murder in mind (9.00pm)

9.00 Murder Most Horrid II: A Severe Case of Death. (Ceefax) (s) (3562)

9.30 Beloved Country: Township Tango (49611)

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax)(758017)

11.15 The Late Review with Mark Lawson (s) (273036) **11.55 Weather** (540758)

12.00 Open View (9196234) **12.05 The Third Revolution.** Information technology (2295708). Ends at **12.30**

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Tender moment for Dorothy, Mandla (BBC2, 9.30pm)

Beloved Country
BBC2, 9.30pm

Six films profile ordinary South Africans as the country prepares for its first democratic elections. We begin in the black township of Soweto where 30-year-old Dorothy and her partner, Mandla, experience at first hand the tragically high level of violence. She is a nurse at a Soweto hospital, he is a police detective in the murder and robbery squad. The film follows them through a year punctuated by funerals, of the assassinated ANC leader, Chris Hani, of a policeman killed in an ambush and of a young ballroom dancer. Dancing is Dorothy's passion and relaxation. But there is no escape from the outside world. A leg wound, picked up during a street robbery, means that she has to stay off the floor for three months.

The First Ever Minder
ITV, 8.30pm

The "ever" may be redundant but that is how ITV has chosen to bill its showing of the screen debut, 15 years ago, of Arthur Daley. Contrary to what he later became, Arthur started as very much second billing. The hero was clearly meant to have been the minder of the title and it was no fault of Dennis Waterman that this did not happen. In this first episode, penned by the creator of the series Leon Griffiths, the Arthur character *is still* in the embryo stage. There is no trilby, no second-hand car lot, no 'er indoors and only a mild hint of the dodgy dealing that was to become his trademark. Nor is there is much evidence of Arthur's wonderful way with the English language. This is still an unmissable piece of television history.

Murder Most Horrid II: A Severe Case of Death
BBC2, 9.00pm

Dawn French's latest incarnation is Maud Jenkins, housekeeper to a whiskery old physician (Timothy West) in Victorian Dorset. Maud has designs on medicine herself but since women doctors are not thick on the ground she has to do a spot of cross-dressing to fulfil her ambition. So it is off with the pinny and on with the moustache and sideburns. Writer Chris England's contribution to the spoof thriller series maintains the high standard. He cleverly sets up the joke, develops it in unexpected ways and keeps the momentum going to the very end. Along the way he tilts knowingly at the conventions of costume melodrama. The rest is down to French and she squeezes her material to the last drop.

The Rector's Wife
Channel 4, 10.00pm

In Joanna Trollope's fictional village for the vicar's wife to take a job in a supermarket is the ultimate sin. Adultery is almost a sideshow. By now most of us probably feel that poor Anna (Lindsay Duncan) has every justification to stray, given that her wretched husband (Jonathan Coy) continues to treat her like a skivvy and can hardly find a civil thing to say to her. For a man of the church, he is notably short on the Christian virtues. The only question is whether Anna can go on resisting the various charms of the suave millionaire next door and the archdeacon's unkempt brother. To reveal the answer would destroy a narrative that under a bland and cosy veneer has the merciless grip of a thriller.

Peter Waymark

ITV LONDON

6.00 GMTV (8036920)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (3580901) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8667982)

10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . Topical discussion chaired by John Stapleton (s) (6339949)

10.35 This Morning (91653185) **12.20 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7265098)

12.30 Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (9357036)

12.55 Emmerdale (r). (Teletext) (9332727) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (57982340)

1.55 Gardeners' Diary. John Ravenscroft demonstrates how to plant bottle gardens (91444479) **2.25 A Country Practice** (93834291) **2.50 TV Weekly** (s) (6677291)

3.20 News (Teletext) (8031123) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (8030494)

3.30 The Riddlers (r) (4060307) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (9859272) **3.50 Garfield and Friends** (6391833) **4.10 Animaniacs** (Teletext) (3602901) **4.40 Fun House** (Teletext) (6460036)

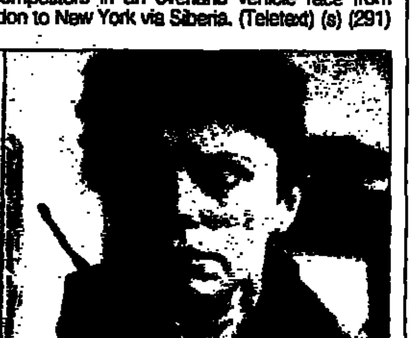
5.10 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (4611494)

5.40 Early Evening News with John Suchet (Teletext) and weather (107814)

6.00 London Tonight. (Teletext) (17920)

7.00 Emmerdale. (Teletext) (9765)

7.30 The Big Race. Nicky Campbell follows the progress of competitors in an overland vehicle race from London to New York via Siberia. (Teletext) (s) (291)



Morgan (Mary Jo Randle) closes in (8.00pm)

8.00 The Bill: Day of Reckoning. When an informer is murdered, Meadows suspects a big-time drugs dealer. (Teletext) (5185)

8.30 The First Ever Minder: Gunfight at the OK Laundrette (r). (Teletext) (85036)

9.30 Commando narrated by Martin Shaw. It is the moment of truth for both recruits and trained soldiers as they near the final Commando test a 30-mile yomp across Dartmoor. (Teletext) (s) (29765)

10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald. (Teletext) and weather (92123) **10.30 London Tonight** (Teletext) and weather (220369)

10.40 Beam and DaSilva. The investigative duo set off around London in pursuit of some of the less scrupulous minicab drivers (511017)

11.10 Big City presented by Gordon Kennedy and Carolyn Marshall (s) (689098)

11.40 FILM: Breakheart Pass (1976). Western based on Alistair MacLean's novel starring Charles Bronson, Ben Johnson and Jill Ireland. A secret service agent investigates a plot to rob the beleaguered Fort Humboldt. Directed by Tom Gries (634949)

1.30 Donahue and his audience discuss the ethical issues surrounding test-tube pregnancies for older women (52789)

2.30 The Beat with Gary Crowley (r) (s) (24470)

3.30 Quiz Night. Pub competition (96811)

4.00 The Album Show (r) (s) (85505)

5.00 Videofashion (r) (39944)

5.30 ITN Morning News (27050) Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 The Adventures of T-Rex (r) (3781369)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (29814)

9.00 Sabotage. Women-only game show (s) (79272)

9.30 Schools: Middle English Drama (4348253) **9.46** Mathematical Eye (1204475) **10.07** Scientific Eye (8674272) **10.28** Geographical Eye (4545494) **10.52** Schools at Work (8935123) **11.00** History in Action (5311889) **11.22** The Microclass (8582727) **11.40** The French Programme (1997388)

12.00 House to House with Maya Even (99036)

12.30 Sesame Street with guest actress Susan Sarandon (39369) **1.30 Widget.** Cartoon (r) (51794)

2.00 FILM: Bonjour Tristesse (1958, b/w and colour) Dark and mesmerising family drama starring David Niven as the playboy father of a malicious teenager who is determined to wreck his affair with new love Deborah Kerr. Directed by Otto Preminger (722746)

3.40 A Perfect Moment (r) (4048185)

3.55 A Taste of Africa (r). (Teletext) (s) (7734949)

4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers game. (Teletext) (s) (104)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Oprah is joined by a woman who teaches students to analyse their dreams. (Teletext) (s) (1712814)

5.50 Laurel and Hardy (824185)

6.00 The Wonder Years. Nostalgic view of life in the early Seventies as seen through the eyes of a teenage boy (r). (Teletext) (369)

6.30 NEW **The Running Halls.** American comedy series following the fortunes of six teenagers who meet at boarding school (949)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (360253) **7.50 Comment** (Teletext) (526611)

8.00 The Royal Collection: Private View. How this collection reflects the tastes and interests of individual collectors across the centuries (r). (Teletext) (s) (3727)



The Sealed Knot refights old battles (8.30pm)

8.30 The Great Outdoors. Trevor Ward sides with the Cavaliers when he joins the Sealed Knot society; Russell Harris hurls himself into space on the end of a piece of elastic; and Sheryl Simms tries orienteering. (Teletext) (5562)

9.00 Beyond the Clouds: The Fate of a Missing Relative. The penultimate episode in this documentary series about everyday life in a Chinese city. When a man is sent across China in search of raw materials to build a feed mill, he solves the mystery of a missing cousin. (Teletext) (s) (2185)

10.00 The Rector's Wife (Teletext) (s) (1784982)

11.05 Vicars. The lives and work of members of Britain's Anglican clergy (r). (Teletext) (361630)

12.05am Sex Talk with Mark Chase (r) (1907963)

12.55 Dispatches (r) (s) (5931215)

1.40 FILM: F P 1 (1932, b/w). Conrad Veidt stars in this intriguing science-fiction drama about the construction of a huge floating airstrip in the middle of the Atlantic. Directed by Karl Hartl (1152296). Ends at **3.00**

4.00-5.30 Schools (2423437)

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and *MW*. **4.00am** Bruno Brookes (FM only) **7.00** Steve Wright **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Lynn Parsons **2.00** Mark Goodier **4.00** Nicky Campbell **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** The Guest List **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00-4.00am** Through the Night (FM only)

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce, including at **10.00** Pick of the Hits **11.30** Jimmy Young **2.00pm** Gloria Hunniford talks to the actress Debra Winger **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** A St Patrick's Day Special: See Choice **8.00** Wally Whyton **9.00** Paul Jones **10.00** High and Lonesome: Nick Barraclough's history of bluegrass **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00-6.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service **6.30** Morning Edition **9.00** Schools: Let's Make a Story; **9.15** Together; **9.35** Listen and Read 2; **9.45** Letterbox; **9.55** Poetry Corner; **10.05** In the News **10.25** Johnnie Walker **12.30pm** Sporting Albums: Linford Christie **1.10** The Crunch **2.00** Test Match Special and the Cheltenham Festival: West Indies v England second Test match in Guyana; Cheltenham Festival: **3.30** Tote Cheltenham Gold Cup, and commentary on the **2.15**, **2.50** and **4.05** races **9.30** Gunchester (3/6) **10.10** Eastern Beat **12.00-12.10am** News; Sport

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. **4.30am** BBC English **4.45** News and Press Review in German **5.00** Morgenmagazin: Tips für Touristen **5.30** Europe Today **6.00** News **6.10** British News **6.15** The World Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.00** Newsdesk **7.30** Network UK **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Good Books **8.30** John Peel **9.00** News **9.05** World Business Report **9.15** From Our Own Correspondent **9.30** The Farming World **9.45** Sports Roundup **10.00** News Summary **10.01** Assignment **10.30** Accidents Will Happen **11.00** Newsdesk **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Mittagsmagazin: News in German Noon News **12.10pm** Words of Faith **12.15** Multitrack 2 **12.45** Sports Roundup **1.00** Newshour **2.00** News **2.05** Outlook **2.30** Off the Shelf: *Rimsky By Himself* **2.45** The Learning World **3.00** News **3.15** Ray on Record **3.30** Sportsworld **3.40** Ray On Record continued **4.00** News **4.10** British News **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Heute Aktuell **5.00** News **5.05** Business Report **5.15** BBC English **6.00** Newsdesk **6.30** Heute Aktuell **7.00** Nachrichten **7.05** Kaleidoskop **8.00** News **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** The World Today **8.30** Europe Today **9.00** Newshour **10.00** News **10.10** British News **10.15** Network UK **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.00** News **11.05** Business Report **11.15** Music Review **Midnight** Newsdesk **12.30am** Conductors at Work **1.00** News **1.05** Outlook **1.30** On the Move **1.45** Global Concerns **2.00** Newsdesk **2.30** 30 Minute Drama: Mrs Danby's Destiny **3.00** News **3.10** British News **3.15** Sports Roundup **3.30** Focus on Faith **4.00** World News **4.15** Top Scores

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey **9.00** Robert Booth **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto: Boughton (Oboe Concerto: Sarah Francis) **3.00** Petroc Trelawny **6.00** Sarah Ward **7.00** The Travel Guide: Washington **8.00** Evening Concert: Concert for St. Patrick's Day. Stanford (Four Irish Dances); Harty (Irish Symphony); Stanford (Symphony No 1 in B flat) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00-6.00am** Jamie Crick

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ and Jono's Breakfast **10.00** Richard Skinner **1.00pm** Graham Dene **4.00** Wendy Lloyd **7.00** N.J. Williams **10.00** Nick Abbot **2.00-6.00am** Paul Coyte

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (67474185) **2.20** TV Weekly (93826272) **2.50-3.20** The Young Doctors (6677291) **5.10-5.40** Take the High Road (4611494) **6.00** Home and Away (197543) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather and Anglia News (527291) **10.40** Anglia Tonight (511017) **11.10** Phoenix (379659) **12.10am** Beyond Reality (8904031) **12.35** Bodies of Evidence (4037050) **1.30** Wrestling (4604321) **2.10** America's Top Ten (7534963) **2.40** Spaceways (8786019) **4.00** Jobfinder (3116654) **4.35-5.30** Cue the Music (8047586)

CENTRAL
As London except: 1.55 Shortland Street (67474185) **2.20** TV Weekly (93826272) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (6677291) **5.10-5.40** Gardening Time (4611494) **6.00** Home and Away (197543) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (105582) **10.40** The Trials of Rosie O'Neill (118340) **11.35** Spawn of the Slithis (253123) **1.15am** The Little Picture Show (275447) **2.15** Noisy Mothers (275627) **3.15** Night Shift (16717234) **3.25** Get Stuffed (16797470) **3.40** Jobfinder (3896418) **4.50** Quiz Night (49588578) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (2096857)

HTV WEST
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (67474185) **2.20** TV Weekly (93826272) **2.50-3.20** The Young Doctors (6677291) **5.10-5.40** Runway (4611494) **5.55** Home and Away (855814) **6.25-7.00** HTV News (527291) **10.40** Something Strange (511017) **11.10** The West This Week (689098) **11.40** Prisoner Cell Block H (616727) **12.35am** Bodies of Evidence (4037050) **1.30** Wrestling (4604321) **2.10** America's Top Ten (7534963) **2.40** Spaceways (8786019) **4.00** Jobfinder (3116654) **4.35-5.30** Cue the Music (8047586)

HTV WALES
As HTV WEST except: 6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (527291) **7.30-8.00** Wales This Week (291) **10.40** A Slice of Life (511017) **11.10-11.40** Wales and Westminster (689098)

MERIDIAN
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (67474185) **2.20** TV Weekly (93826272) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (6677291) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (727) **6.30-7.00** Getaways (307) **10.40** Bodies of Evidence (131291) **11.40** Love and War (823630) **12.10am** Coach (2262470) **12.40-1.30** Street Legal (4116505) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (39944)

TYNE TEES
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Tyne Tees News and Weather (8667982) **12.20pm** Tyne Tees News and Weather / Birdsdale: Network North (7274746) **12.25-12.30** Lookaround (7273017) **1.55** A Country Practice (67474185) **2.20** TV Weekly (93826272) **2.50-3.20** The Young Doctors (6677291) **5.55** Tyne Tees Today (550494) **6.30-7.00** Cross Wits (307) **10.30** Tyne Tees News and Weather (220369) **10.40** Northern Eye (741727) **11.25** Prisoner Cell Block H (639543) **12.20am** The Lady from Yesterday (784673) **2.05** America's Top Ten (7535692) **2.35** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (3993234) **3.05** Remember? (6003963) **4.35-5.30** Jobfinder (8047586)

WESTCOUNTRY
As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry Latest (8667982) **12.20pm-12.30** Westcountry Latest (7265098) **1.55** The Sullivans (91444479) **2.25-2.55** TV Weekly (93825543) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry Latest (8030494) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (17920) **10.30** Westcountry Latest (220369) **10.40** Special Report (511017) **11.10** Prisoner Cell Block H (841388) **12.05am** Rock Sport (8923166) **12.25** My Story (9193147) **12.35** Bodies of Evidence (4037050) **1.30** Superstars of Wrestling (4604321) **2.10** America's Top Ten (7534963) **2.40** Spaceways (8786019) **4.00** Jobfinder (3116654) **4.35-5.30** Cue the Music (8047586)

YORKSHIRE
As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (67474185) **2.20** TV Weekly (93826272) **2.50-3.20** The Young Doctors (6677291) **5.55** Calendar (550494) **6.30-7.00** Cross Wits (307) **10.40** Edit V (741727) **11.25** Prisoner Cell Block H (639543) **12.20am** The Lady from Yesterday (784673) **2.05** America's Top Ten (7535692) **2.35** Cinema, Cinema (3993234) **3.05** Remember? (6003963) **4.35-5.30** Jobfinder (8047586)

S4C
Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (29814) **9.00** Sabotage (79272) **9.30** Yagollon (563123) **12.00pm** House To House (99036) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (87683) **1.00** A Taste Of Africa (22901) **1.30** The Great Commanders (4502659) **2.15** Bitter Sweet (710901) **3.55** Natura Oh! (3611659) **4.00** Slot 23 (9649479) **4.05** Tomos Y Tanc (4129052) **4.15** Uned 5 (8284776) **5.00** The Cosby Show (7543) **5.30** Countdown (456) **6.00** Newyddion (291833) **6.20** Cwlwm Serch (160524) **6.25** Heno (525833) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (7307) **7.30** Ar Y Prom (70630) **8.30** Newyddion (5562) **9.00** Trosen (937901) **9.45** Good Ideas Of The 20th Century (634956) **10.00** The Rector's Wife (1784982) **11.05** Beyond The Clouds (361630) **12.05am** The Brief (2261741) **12.35** For One Night Only (3656296) **1.05** Diwedd/close (17207963) **4.00** Schools (46692)

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Developing World — Primary Health Care **6.55** Weather

7.00 On Air: Strauss (Pilgers Morgenlied — An Lila, Op 33 No 4); Vivaldi (Cello Concerto in G, RV414); Grieg (Peer Gynt Suite No 2, Op 55); Malcolm Arnold (Cornish Dances, Op 91); Liszt (Die Lorelei); Carver (O bone Jesu)

9.00 Composers of the Week: Matthews and Saxton. Matthews (Introit, Op 28); Saxton (Caritas, Act 2); Matthews (Violin Concerto)

10.00 Musical Encounters: Tchaikovsky (Fantasy Overture, Romeo and Juliet); **10.20** *Artist of the Week*: Boris Christoff, bass, performs Prince Gremin's Aria, Eugene Onegin; **10.25** Beethoven (String Quartet in C, Op 59 No 3); **11.00** Gounod (Prenez mon bras un moment! Faust); Prokofiev (Symphony No 3 in C minor); **11.50** Mussorgsky (Boris's monologue, Boris Gudunov)

12.00 Ensemble: The Medici Quartet performs Grieg (String Quartet in F); Sibelius (String Quartet in D, Op 56, Voces intimae) (r)

1.00pm News

1.05 Handel's Last Oratorios: In the fourth of five programmes of oratorios from Handel's last decade, Jane Glover introduces *Jephtha*. First performed in 1752, the work tells the story of a terrible promise. London Baroque Choir and Orchestra under Charles Medlam (r)

3.55 Britten Quartet performs Beethoven (String Quartet in G, Op 18 No 2); John Pickard (String Quartet No 1)

5.00 The Music Machine: Tommy Pearson talks to composer Judith Bingham about her orchestral work, *Chartres*, which inspired a project for children from Manchester

6.15 In Tune: Including Lefèvre (Hymne à l'agriculture); Tippett (Piano Sonata No 1, finale); Schumann (String Quartet in A minor, Op 41 No 1)

7.25 Live from Covent Garden: Janáček's *Katya Kabanova* comes to Covent Garden for *the first time in Trevor Nunn's new production*. The tragic work traces the fate of a free spirit in a tightly-constrained society. Acts 1 and 2; **8.35** Trevor Nunn talks to James Naughtie; **8.55** Act 3

9.50 My Dear Kamila: John Tyrell discusses the relationship between Janáček and Kamila Stosslova

10.15 Unsquare Dances: Dave Brubeck talks to Geoffrey Smith about the early days of his quartet (r)

10.45 Night Waves: Joe Farrell reviews Peter Brook's play *The Man Who* . . . in Manchester, and talks to Scottish writers James Kelman, Irvine Welsh, A.L. Kennedy and Janice Galloway

11.30 Voices: Hair of the Dog. Iain Burnside looks at hangovers

12.30-12.35am News 1.00-2.05 Night School (except in Scotland: as Radio 5 at 9am)

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast **6.00** News Briefing, incl **6.03** Weather **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today, incl **6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **6.55, 7.55** Weather **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather

9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze: Michael Buerk is joined by Janet Daley, Hugo Gryn, Edward Pearce and Roger Scruton

9.45 Famous for 15 Minutes: Jenni Mills talks to Harry Base, who became famous when a fault on his phone put him live on the radio

10.00-10.30 The Vacillations of Poppy Carew (FM only): Mary Wesley's novel, dramatised by Betty Davies (1/6)

10.00 News; Daily Service (LW only)

10.15 The Bible (LW only): The First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians. Read by Peter Jeffrey

10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Jenni Murray. Serial: *Like Water for Hot Chocolate*. Incl **11.00 News**

11.30 From Our Own Correspondent

12.00 News; You and Yours

12.25pm Looking Forward to the Past: Paul Boateng discusses historical mysteries with Libby Purves, Andy Hamilton, Rabbi Lionel Blue and Peter Tinniswood **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping

2.00 News; Cathal of the Woods, by Lindsay Clarke. A young monk sets sail to convert the heathen Picts. With Garard Green

3.00-4.00 Anderson Country (FM only), with Gerry Anderson. Phone 071-765 5540

3.00 News; Prime Minister's Questions (LW only)

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Paul Allen reports on Australia's Adelaide Festival, and reviews Talawa Theatre Company's new production of *King Lear*

4.45 Short Story: Deprivation, by Eigra Lewis Roberts. Lisi Blodwen is jilted after 20 years of courtship. Read by Myfanwy Talog

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather

6.00 News 6.30 The Skivers: Comedy sketches with special guest, Leslie Phillips

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 Soundtrack: A Tale of Two Yoghurts. See Choice

8.00 Russia: The Bear Awakes. John Lloyd discusses Russia's search for an identity

8.45 Does He Take Sugar? Magazine for the disabled

9.15 Kaleidoscope (r)

9.45 The Financial World Tonight, with Roger White

10.00 The World Tonight

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Jogging Round Majorca, by Gordon West. Read by Leonard Pearcey (4/8) (r)

11.00 Stanza: Poetry prizes

11.30 Today in Parliament

12.00-12.43am News, incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping **12.43** As World Service (LW only)

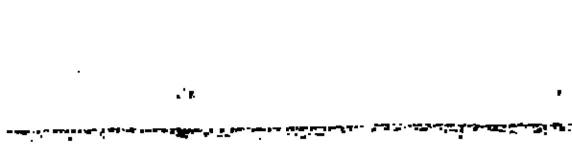
A Tale of Two Yoghurts. *Radio 4, 7.20pm.*

This is not quite David against Goliath, but as a rough guide to the confrontation in this *Soundtrack* documentary, that biblical imbalance of combative power will serve. David is a north Shropshire dairy farmer whose organic yoghurt was a national best-seller. Then along came the high-tech Goliath, a Bavarian farmer who moved his yoghurt-making plant into an adjoining field and put David out of business. Not, however, out of farming. And thereby (as they say) hangs a tale. Considering the high stakes, there is surprisingly little rancour in this organic poker game.

St Patrick's Day Special. *Radio 2, 7.00pm.*

I do not know whether we at home are supposed to sing along with, dance to, or just listen to this rousing entertainment from The Grove, Manchester. All three, probably. Gloria Hunniford, shamrock behind one ear, introduces a seamless sequence of Irish songs performed by Brendan Shine, Ann Breen and Johnny McEvoy and their bands. They deserve much more in the way of vocal support from their audience than they get.

Peter Davalle



WAKE UP TO A CLASSIC BREAKFAST SHOW.
DAILY 6-9AM.
CLASSIC *fM* 100-102

SATELLITE

SKY ONE
6.00am DJ Kat (83575630) **8.40** Lamb Chops (2849036) **9.10** Cartoons (8706543) **9.30** Card Sharks (54475) **9.55** Concentration (55765) **10.25** Dynamo Duck (4086746) **10.30** Love at First Sight (24746) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (55253) **12.00** Urban Peasant (15098) **12.30pm** E Street (58291) **1.00** Barnaby Jones (53746) **2.00** Chiefs (56494) **3.00** Another World (8598475) **3.45** DJ Kat (3878630) **5.00** Star Trek (1388) **6.00** Games World (7291) **6.30** E Street (8543) **7.00** M*A*S*H (2017) **7.30** Full House (4727) **8.00** Rescue (81543) **9.00** LA Law (65497) **10.00** Star Trek (as 5pm) (15974) **11.00** Untouchables (76746) **12.00** Streets of San Francisco (77128) **1.00am** Night Court (59383) **1.30-2.00** Living Color (50073)

SKY NEWS
News on the hour.
6.00am Sunrise (55814) **9.30** Nightline (83765) **10.30** Beyond 2000 (42920) **11.30** Japan Business (82340) **12.30pm** News and Business (53036) **1.30** CBS News (54765) **2.30** Parliament (39562) **4.30** News and Business (4340) **5.00** Live at Five (746494) **7.30** The Reporters (2369) **9.30** Talkback (43369) **11.30** CBS News (49494) **12.30am** ABC News (26499) **1.30** The Reporters (90963) **2.30** Beyond 2000 (53079) **3.30** Talkback (25296) **4.30** The Reporters (28234) **5.30-6.00** CBS News (50302)

SKY MOVIES
6.00am Showcase (1199123)
10.00 The Shakiest Gun in the West (1969): Comic western (89307)
12.00 Advice to the Lovelorn (1981): Cloris Leachman plays an agony aunt (37369)
2.00pm Swashbuckler (1976): Pirate romp with Robert Shaw, James Earl Jones (95746)
4.00 The Wrong Box (1966): John Mills and Ralph Richardson play rival heirs (19269611)
6.00 Archer (1985): Brett Climo enters a horse in the Melbourne Cup (75982)
8.00 Aunt Julia and the Scriptwriter (1991): Keanu Reeves has a blossoming romance with an older woman (87727)
10.00 Dorado and Daughter (1993): Charles Bronson and Dana Delaney star as father-and-daughter cops (985659)
11.35 To Save a Child (1991): A baby is to be sacrificed to the devil (117036)
1.05am Blind Vision (1990): Peeping Tom Lenny von Dohlen is caught up in a deadly plot when he helps his neighbour (7756234)
2.35 Ambition (1991): An ambitious writer asks a murderer to kill again (141031)
4.10 Jackson County Jail (1976): Yvette Mimieux and Tommy Lee Jones play prisoners on the run (715160). Ends at **5.50**

SKY MOVIES GOLD
6.00pm Little Shop of Horrors (1960). Flower shop customers end up as plant food. With Jonathan Haze (5146524)
7.15 The Raven (1935, b/w). Bela Lugosi plays a deranged plastic surgeon (3920659)
8.20 Same Time, Next Year (1978): Alan Alda falls for Ellen Burstyn (60601456)
10.20 A Nightmare on Elm Street (1984): Freddy Krueger invades the dreams of teenagers (830901). Ends at **12.00**

THE MOVIE CHANNEL
6.00am Mutiny on the Buses (1973): Reg Varney gives a driving lesson (86901)
8.00 Felix the Cat — The Movie (1990): Animated adventure (45388)
10.00 The Promise (1978): A young man fails to recognise he lost love after her face is rebuilt. With Kathleen Quinlan (67949)
12.00 Easy to Love (1953): Lavish Esther Williams musical (28611)
2.00pm House of Dracula (1945, b/w): Universal monster outing (7221388)
3.10 Frankenstein Meets the Wolfman (1943 b/w): Horror ensues when Lon Chaney Jr returns as the Wolfman (1918807)
4.30 Felix the Cat — The Movie (as 8am) (61475)
6.00 After the Glory (1992). War veterans fight a corrupt mayor (73524)
8.00 Critters 4 (1992): Don Opper battles to save the universe from demons (85369)
10.00 Wild Thing (1987): A young boy rescues Kathleen Quinlan (856901)
11.35 Rage and Honour II — Hostile Takeover (1992): Martial arts (873901)
1.15am Into the Badlands (1991): Three short films about a bounty hunter (280321)
2.45 Red Wind (1991): Adult drama (145857)
4.20 After the Glory (as 6pm) (601499). Ends at **6.00**

SKY SPORTS
7.00am Prime Bodies (27494) **7.30** Soccer (7974272) **7.45** Wrestlemania (7035659) **8.30** Sportsworld (13727) **9.00** Prime Bodies (37307) **9.30** ATP Tennis (47630) **11.30** Basketball (992746) **2.00pm** Cricket: England v West Indies (39449746) **4.10** Tennis (8006582) **4.40** Cricket (as 2pm) (41334272) **9.30** Boots and All (54562) **10.00** Soccer News (498185) **10.15** Boot Room (230185) **11.15** Netbusters (658388) **11.30** Basketball (93949) **12.00-2.00am** Tennis (59370)

EUROSPORT
7.30am Step Aerobics (98299) **8.00** Eurogolf (63494) **9.00** Alpine Skiing (39388) **10.00** Freestyle Skiing (97253) **11.00** Football (16098) **1.00pm** Snooker (70098) **3.00** Ice Hockey (5366) **3.00** Motorsport (96369) **4.00** Alpine Skiing (17384) **5.30** Euroski (62949) **6.30** News (4369) **7.00** ATP Tennis (2727) **9.00** European Cup Football (39104) **11.00** Golf (98982) **12.00-12.30am** News (13895)

UK GOLD
7.00am The Sullivans (3388494) **7.30** Neighbours (9180098) **7.55** Sons and Daughters (9198017) **8.25** EastEnders (4412456) **9.00** The Bill (7734765) **9.30** The Onedin Line (8747543) **10.30** Bergerac (3511727) **11.30** The Sullivans (5261036) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7714901) **12.30pm** Neighbours (7316746) **1.00** EastEnders (3387765) **1.30** The Bill (7315017) **2.00** Robin's Nest (4209017) **2.30** 'Allo 'Allo! (5306307) **3.00** Dallas (9398104) **3.55** The Colbys (7011307) **4.50** Every Second Counts (3979630) **5.25** Give Us a Clue (14584659) **5.55** Sykes (7483307) **6.30** EastEnders (5398388) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (9803340) **8.00** 'Allo 'Allo! (4289253) **8.30** Robin's Nest (4206388) **9.00** Bergerac (9809524) **10.00** The Bill (7715630) **10.30** Innes Book of Records (4678765) **11.10** Top of the Pops (2283659) **11.50** Dr Who (1536814) **12.20-2.00am** FILM: The Very Edge (1962, b/w): A pregnant woman is assaulted. With Anne Heywood (7770012)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL
6.00am RatKan II (60272) **6.30** Bobobobs (84524) **7.00** Bears (6770291) **7.15** Toons (828253) **7.45** Beverly Hills Teens (278794) **8.15** Head to Head (9784765) **8.30** Teddy Ruxpin (62017) **9.00** Droibee Time (79920) **10.00** Nellie the Elephant (93524) **11.00** RatKan II (33456) **11.30** Bobobobs (34185) **12.00** Bears (3293494) **12.15pm** Toons (665562) **12.45** Beverly Hills Teens (664833) **1.15** Head to Head (58725630) **1.30** Teddy Ruxpin (82369) **2.00** Potsworth (7369) **2.30** The Herbs (9735814) **2.40** Crystal Tipps (3026098) **2.45** Baber (651369) **3.15** RatKan II (4456524) **3.20** Manu (7949388) **3.35** Special (5192369) **3.45** Spiff (6592272) **3.55** Head to Head (4709456) **4.00** White Fang (3272) **4.30-5.00** T-Rex (9456)

NICKELODEON
7.00am Batfink (1406678) **7.15** Turtles (416123) **7.45** Rugrats (415494) **8.15** Modern Life (5296818) **8.30** Blue **9.00** Eureeka (35949) **9.30** Fraggle Rock (38524) **10.00** David the Gnome (95307) **10.30** The Chipmunks (24633) **11.00** Janosch (99098) **11.30** Banana Sandwich (90727) **12.00** Monkees (15185) **12.30pm** Muppets (32340) **1.00** Eureeka (24307) **1.30** Fraggle Rock (31611) **2.00** David the Gnome (4185) **2.30** Banana Sandwich (8582) **3.00** The Chipmunks (8920) **3.30** Capital Critters (3203) **4.00** Turtles (9814) **4.30** Rugrats (5098) **5.00** Clarissa Explains It All (9765) **5.30** Guts (9678) **6.00** Galaxy High School (9291) **6.30-7.00** The Monkees (71727)

DISCOVERY
4.00pm Global Family (5388901) **4.30** Durrell in Russia (5384185) **5.00** Dangerous Earth (90194678) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (2024340) **7.00** Traveller's Guide (4201475) **7.30** African Ride (5385814) **8.00** Terra X (4210123) **8.30** Pirates (4299630) **9.00** Fields of Armour (5248185) **9.30** Special Forces (7394524) **10.00** Wildside (9800253) **11.00-12.00** Living with the Gun (3362456)

BRAVO
12.00 FILM: Mr and Mrs Smith (1941, b/w). Alfred Hitchcock farce about a couple who discover that they are not legally married (9818920) **1.50** Dodo (67521098) **2.00** FILM: Fighting Sullivans (1944, b/w): The wartime escapades of five brothers (9826291) **4.00** Flying Nun (5382727) **4.30** My Three Sons (5371611) **5.00** Beverly Hillbillies (4218765) **5.30** Donny and Marie (5395291) **6.00** Saber of London (5392104) **6.30** Man from Interpol (5383456) **7.00** Yancy Derringer (4298901) **7.30** Duffy's Tavern (5372340) **8.00** The Avengers (9814456) **9.00** FILM: Jail Bait (1954, b/w): A criminal has plastic surgery (5236340) **10.30** Torchy (7726746) **11.00** Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman (5247456) **11.30-12.00** Twilight Zone (9685123)

UK LIVING
7.00am Living (3423253) **8.00** Dr Ruth (4297727) **8.30** Bon Voyage (4296098) **9.00** Dr Ruth (4210678) **9.30** Days of Our Lives (1619814) **10.30** The Young and the Restless (5842320) **11.30** Madhur Jaffrey (5374982) **12.00** Stars and Signs (90407104) **12.15pm** Practical Living (21810185) **12.30** Housecalls (8616253) **1.00** The Bazaar (8523494) **1.30** Bon Voyage (8615524) **2.00** Agony (8534765) **3.00** Living (2101833) **3.45** Gladrags and Glamour (71313814) **4.00** Definition (4820630) **4.30** Infatuation (4826814) **5.00** Rodeo Drive (6865291) **5.30** Fame and Fortune (7104272) **5.45** Kilroy (5254291) **6.30** Delia Smith (4839659) **7.00** Material World (6852727) **7.30** That's Amore (4827543) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (3732098) **9.00** FILM: Beyond Therapy (1987): Comedy about neurotic New York singles and their therapists (67904982) **10.45** Fame and Fortune (8376340) **11.00** That's Amore (5398562) **11.30** Infatuation (8522920) **12.00-1.00am** Agony (3410789)

FAMILY CHANNEL
5.00pm Big Brother Jake (1949) **5.30** Black Stallion (3036) **6.00** Wonder Years (6479) **6.30** Catchphrase (4901) **7.00** All Clued Up (1185) **7.30** Pyramid (6235) **8.00** Cats Eyes (74291) **9.00** Lou Grant (61727) **10.00** Trivial Pursuit (67582) **10.30** Evening Shade (43982) **11.00** Remington Steele (94253) **12.00-1.00am** Big Valley (51128)

MTV
5.00am Wild Side (974505) **8.00** VJ Ingo (498369) **11.00** Soul (15746) **12.00** Hits (97291) **1.00pm** VJ Simone (291494) **3.30** The Report (5119036) **3.45** At the Movies (5107291) **4.00** News (9011630) **4.15** 3 from 1 (9001253) **4.30** Dial MTV (1814) **5.00** Music Non-Stop (56456) **7.00** Hits (67901) **8.00** Most Wanted (83949) **9.00** Pulse (55678) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (98920) **10.00** The Report (290630) **10.15** At the Movies (295185) **10.30** News (596217) **10.45** 3 from 1 (935902) **11.00** Party Zone (95611) **1.00am** VJ Marijne (77876) **2.00-5.00** Night Videos (3513352)

TV ASIA
6.00am Persian Dawn (51036) **7.00** Regional News (12659) **7.30** Asian Morning (24494) **8.00** Hindi News (50272) **8.30** Urdu News (6079291) **8.45** English News (6074746) **9.00** Barzekh (73746) **10.00** Hindi FILM: Bhabi (135659) **1.00pm** Wagle Ki Duniya (35730) **1.30** Hindi FILM: Khoj (686302) **4.30** Kiddie Time (6982) **5.00-6.00** TVA and You (7982) **7.00** Ba Adab Ba Mulhaiza (23543) **8.00** English News (686727) **8.15** Hindi FILM: Prem Paigham (43589727) **11.15** Shapnear Shohoor (826017) **12.05am** Five Past Midnight (6948147) **1.35-6.00** Sight and Sound (66837963)

TNT
Theme: Happy St Patrick's Day
7.00pm My Wild Irish Rose (1947). Biography of tenor Chauncey Olcott (79164727) **8.55 The Irish in Us** (1935, b/w): The lives of three brothers (20590098) **10.30 The Fighting 69th** (1940, b/w): First World War action in the trenches (75241562) **12.00 Parnell** (1937, b/w): Clark Gable stars as the Irish nationalist leader (44226760) **2.15am Three Cheers for the Irish** (1940, b/w): Trouble ensues when an Irish girl falls for a Scot (29272789). Ends at **3.55**

CNN
Twenty-four hour news programmes

CMT
Country music from midnight to 4pm

QVC
Home shopping channel

RADIO 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m; FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM 88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM 92.4-94.6. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m. CLASSIC FM: FM 100-102. VIRGIN: MW 1215, 1197, 1242 kHz.

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RACING 38,39
SWAN GLIDES TO TREBLE SUCCESS AT CHELTENHAM

SPORT

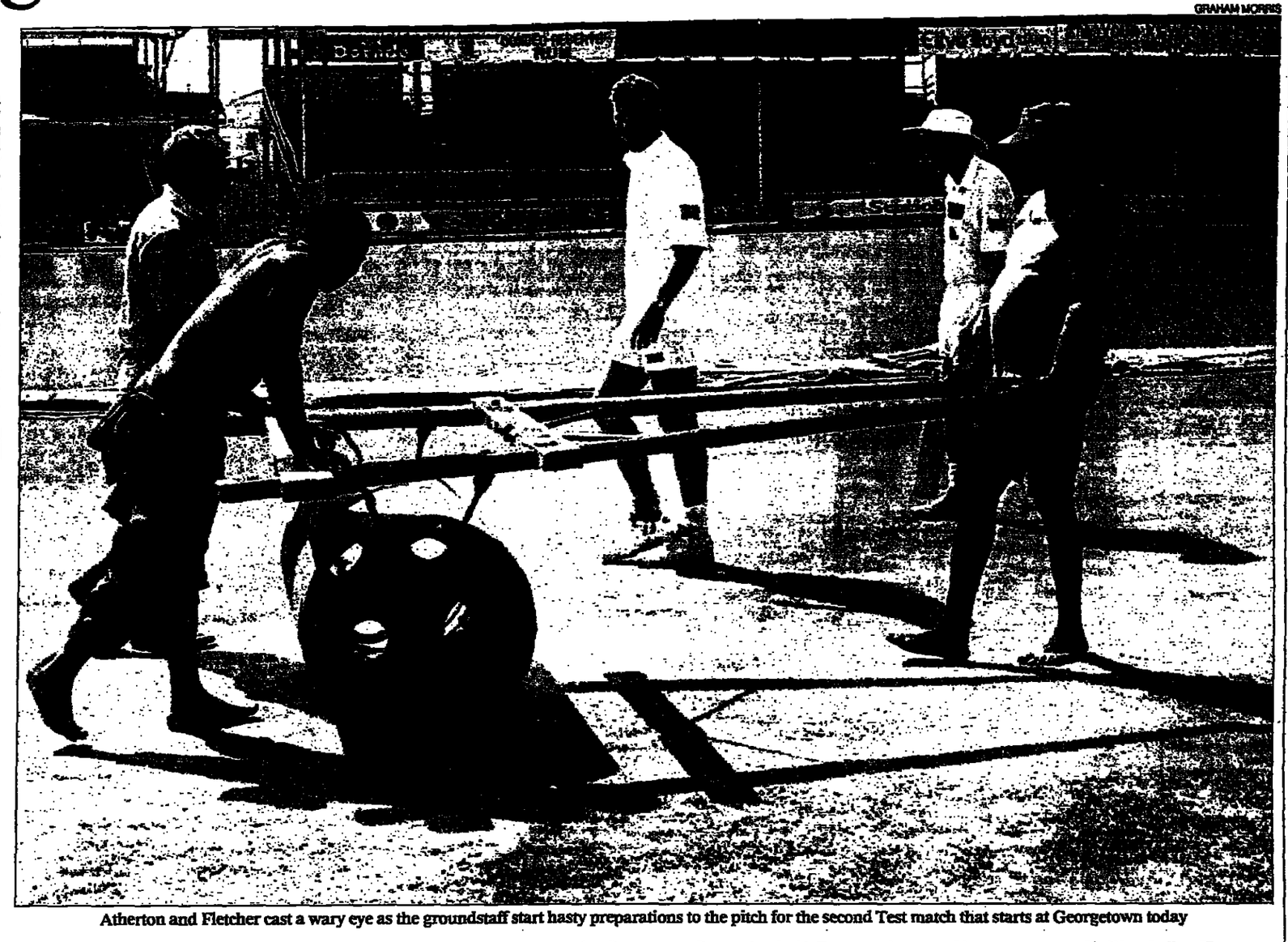
RUGBY UNION 41
REDPATH CARRYING SCOTLAND'S HOPES ON SLIM SHOULDERS

THURSDAY MARCH 17 1994

Rains recede to raise hope that second Test will start on time

England strike seam of despair

GRAHAM MORRIS



Atherton and Fletcher cast a wary eye as the groundstaff start hasty preparations to the pitch for the second Test match that starts at Georgetown today

FROM ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT
IN GEORGETOWN, GUYANA

ENGLAND have not lost a Test match in Georgetown for 46 years but yesterday, as the weather cleared up a good deal faster than uncertainty over the touring team's strategy, this was a record under ominous threat. The second Test starts this morning and England, if anything, are rather less prepared for it than they were after losing in Jamaica three weeks ago.

Part of the explanation for England's apparent invincibility on the Bourda ground is that, for reasons both political and climatic, it is 20 years since they last started a Test here. There were times, during the downpours early this week, when they seemed most unlikely to start this one, too, but the flood waters have subsided and, yesterday, a hot sun dried the outfield.

The transformed scene did not necessarily delight England. They would never admit as much, of course, but an abandonment here would have suited their purpose well. English hopes depend upon going to Trinidad, next week, no worse than 1-0 adrift, and taking their chance on a Port of Spain pitch thought sure to produce a result. Lose here, and the recovery plan is a hopeless cause.

Normally, one could confidently mark this game down as a banker draw. It is a traditionally high-scoring ground, on which Richie Richardson, the West Indies captain, averages 104 and has made the three highest scores of his Test career. The pitch seldom has any pace and even the hearts of West Indian quick bowlers tend to be broken here after five days of fruitless effort.

Two things, however, conspire against any such confidence. The first is that today's pitch has had only two days of hurried preparation and no one can be sure how it will behave. The second is that England have so utterly lost faith in their seam bowlers, the admirable Angus Fraser excepted, that selection policy is in disarray. The correct thing to do today would be to include both specialist spin bowlers, not only to suit the pitch conditions but because they are demonstrably more dependable than the errant seamers. But it is precisely because they are reluctant to trust two seam bowlers, in a four-man attack, that England could still seek the false insurance of three.

After practice on Tuesday, the seam bowlers were called together by the management team for a motivational talk. "They were reminded again what is expected of them," Keith Fletcher, the team manager, said. "I think they know what to do. It's a question of whether they can do it." At such a sensitive point of this series, there could hardly have been a more damning indictment.

Fletcher has spent many hours on this trip preaching to his bowlers the merit of the West Indian way. "If their bowlers get on a flat pitch, they concentrate on bowling just short of a length to a defensive field. They try nothing flashy and give nothing away, just wait for the batsman to make a mistake. Only once they have taken a wicket will they start attacking."

Such tactics have been honed, down the years, by attacks far more intimidating than the present quartet. As West Indian combinations go, this is not an outstanding vintage, especially if Curtly Ambrose retains the look of one who has had too much cricket. Its asset is not speed but the accuracy and control normally associated with English bowlers, yet it remains so far ahead of anything England can offer that there can be only one outcome if five full days see the bounce of the pitch become unreliably low.

England's best, perhaps only hope of winning is via spin but, here, they have hampered their own prospects by the crass decision to omit Philip Tufnell from the last game. Tufnell last bowled in a first-class match on February 13 and it is asking a lot of him to return from such a lay-off in prime form.

Ian Salisbury is England's main attacking weapon, unrecognisable in his assurance from the bowler who struggled with form and fitness last summer. Inexperience is his enemy, of course, but if his googly — a ball he bowls better than Shane Warne — can trouble the three left-handers who made the bulk of West Indies' runs in Kingston, he could heavily influence this game.

Carl Hooper's withdrawal, complaining that his back injury has not properly healed and that insufficient attention has been paid to his condition, solved a selection problem for the West Indies. They seem sure to play the side that won in Kingston, which will only backfire if the ball turns enough to expose their lack of a regular spin bowler.

As England weighed up their options last night, one certainty was that Mark Ramprakash will play his first overseas Test match in the country where his father was born. Family revelries may follow but reality suggests that the England team will have nothing more to celebrate over the coming week.

S Africa's warning, page 40

TEST SQUADS

ENGLAND (probable; from): M A Atherton (captain), A J Stewart, M Ramprakash, R A Smith, G A Hick, G P Thorpe, R C Russell, C C Lewis, A R C Fraser, A P Igglesden, P C R Tufnell, I D K Salisbury.

WEST INDIES (probable): R B Richardson (captain), D L Haynes, P V Simmons, B C Lara, K L T Arthurton, J C Adams, J R Murray, W K M Benjamin, C E L Ambrose, K C G Benjamin, C A Walsh.

Toshack's surprise exit leads to overhaul of selection

BY KEITH PIKE

THE Football Association of Wales (FAW) council will hold an emergency meeting today to begin the process of appointing a successor to John Toshack, who confirmed yesterday that he had resigned as part-time coach after one game in charge.

Terry Yorath, Toshack's predecessor who was controversially ousted after Wales's failure to qualify for the World Cup finals, Brian Flynn, the Wrexham manager, and David Williams, the assistant manager of Everton, are possible contenders.

First, though, the FAW is expected to overhaul its appointment procedure. It might also launch an internal inquiry into why Toshack's reign lasted just 48 days.

Toshack flies from Spain to Heathrow this morning to explain the reasons behind his unexpected decision. "I don't want to say much now," he told reporters at the training ground of Real Sociedad, where he is general manager, "but when I was offered the job I was enthusiastic and full of hope. Since I announced I had accepted the job, I've learnt little by little that things are a bit different to what I thought they would be."

Toshack denied that he had been put under any pressure from Inaqui Alquiza, the Sociedad president, to concentrate on his club duties. "The decision was taken by me alone," Toshack said.

Toshack's only match in charge, against Norway last Wednesday, ended in a 3-1 defeat, with supporters calling for Yorath's reinstatement. If the FAW is unable to find a successor before the match against Sweden at Wrexham on April 20, Mike Smith, the former Wales manager who was appointed Toshack's assistant, will take charge but is unlikely to be considered on a permanent basis.

Alun Evans, the FAW chief executive whose role in Yorath's departure and Toshack's appointment have been widely criticised, admitted he was "deeply disappointed" by Toshack's decision, but defended his own actions. "It could have worked," he said, "but things became obscured by the continuing controversy over the Yorath situation."

Football's farce, page 42

Taylor in the frame as Turner bows out at Wolves



Turner: admitted defeat

BY CHRIS MOORE

GRAHAM Turner resigned as manager of Wolverhampton Wanderers yesterday, inviting speculation that his departure from Molineux would pave the way for the return to the game of Graham Taylor, the former England manager.

Despite Turner having spent more than £3 million on new players this season, promotion to the FA Premiership, always the over-riding priority, now looks out of reach.

But as long as Wolves remained in the FA Cup, with the prospect of a first return to Wembley for 34 years, he retained the backing of Sir Jack Hayward, the club's multi-millionaire owner, who has spend over £14 million of his fortune turning Molineux into the most modern stadium in the country.

When Sunday's 1-0 defeat at Chelsea in the quarter-finals of the FA Cup was followed by a 3-0 league defeat at Portsmouth, Turner, 46, who had formerly managed Shrewsbury and Aston Villa, realised his time was up.

"In the best interests of the club I have decided to resign," he said. "When I was appointed in October 1986 I described the job of resurrecting this club as the ultimate challenge in football. I take great pride in the part I have played in its revival, and I sincerely hope it will continue."

Jonathan Hayward, the club chairman, last night put on record the appreciation of the board at Turner's achievement in leading the club out of the depths of the old fourth division.

He confirmed the board had also accepted the resignation of Turner's assistant, Garry Pendrey. Peter Shirtliff, the club captain, has been put in charge of team affairs until a successor is appointed.

Taylor has kept a low profile over the past four months since parting company with the Football Association after England's failure to qualify for this year's World Cup finals. But almost from the day he left Lancaster Gate his name was linked with a move to Molineux, if the job were to become vacant.

Now it has, he is certain to be regarded within the club as the leading contender to take over, although Bryan Robson, the former England captain, who has recently confirmed his interest in moving into management now that his playing career with Manchester United is drawing to a close, is a possible rival.

The names of Howard Kendall, Arthur Cox and Steve Coppell will also no doubt be given an airing.

Ironically, it was shortly prior to Taylor's departure from the international stage that Wolves embarked on a run of 22 matches in which they met with only one defeat.

During that time an uneasy truce prevailed between Turner and a faction of the supporters who had been previously baying for his blood.

Wolverhampton's next match, on Saturday, is against Grimsby, where Taylor started his playing career, and where he spent last Saturday afternoon watching them beat Birmingham City.

"Insist on a Californian brandy- unless you're up to your neck in snow with a St. Bernard approaching."

CLINT CRAWFORD,
HOT DOG SKIER, CALIFORNIA.



INTRODUCE SOME CALIFORNIAN INTO THE CONVERSATION.

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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 115

ACROSS
1 System of descent through male line (10)
8 Innards of cooking fowl (7)
9 Clamour (5)
10 Sentimentally pretty (4)
11 Man with two wives (8)
13 Business (5)
14 Hackneyed (5)
16 Man-eating man (8)
17 Hinged flap fitting over staple (4)
20 Big, wide (5)
21 Statement of money due (7)
22 Result of subtraction sum (10)

DOWN
1 Live in disgusting squalor (3,2)
2 Behaviour eating (5,7)
3 Notion (4)
4 John —, 19C art critic and reformer (6)
5 Women-only social function (3,5)
6 A people's culture and way of life (12)
7 Be snug (6)
12 Vitamin B deficiency disease (8)
13 Amuse; poach (trout) (6)
15 List of charges (6)
18 Separate item (5)
19 Six balls (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 114

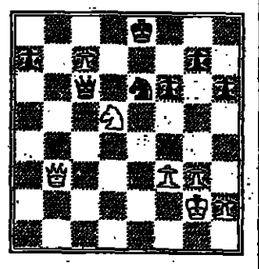
ACROSS: 4 Vista 7 Execrate 8 Size 9 Vineyard 10 Better 13 Carboy 14 Crosby 15 Detest 18 Diapason 19 Loaf 20 On the nod 21 Lucan

DOWN: 1 Venice 2 Reject 3 Driver 4 Vegetate 5 Squabble 6 Avidly 11 Thoracic 12 Emblazon 14 Cudgel 15 Dinghy 16 Talent 17 Shandy

CHESS

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Zukertort - Englisch, London 1883. White cashed in on his advance passed pawn with the aid of some clever tactics. Can you see how?



Solution, page 42

WORD WATCH

By Philip Howard

VECORDIOUS
a. Crazy
b. Heart-felt
c. Pertaining to veins

ZOOPERY
a. Wonderful, gorgeous
b. Experimenting on animals
c. A clown on stilts

AYMARA
a. A stepped pyramid
b. An Italian syllabub
c. A South American Indian

DIGBY
a. A dried herring
b. To preach sententiously
c. An infantry entrenching tool

Answers on page 42